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PEACE FORMULA

Gehlot, Pilot agree to fight polls together

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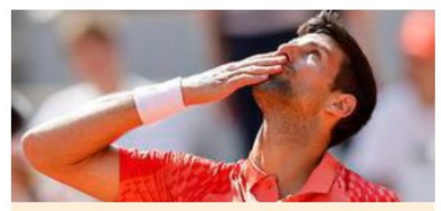

SMOOTH START

Djokovic begins bid for 23rd Slam in style

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10 killed in head-on collision near T. Narsipur

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Ten people, including three children, died and three others sustained injuries when the multipurpose vehicle (MPV) in which they were travelling collided with a private bus near Kurubur village, about 35 km from Mysuru, on NH-766 (between T. Narsipur and Kollegal) in Mysuru district on Monday.

The injured have been shifted to K.R. Hospital in Mysuru and the condition of one of them is said to be critical. Ten out of 13 passengers in the car, including the driver, died on the spot. The deceased were from Ballari district and were returning from M.M. Hills. The impact of the collision was so strong that some passengers were thrown out of the vehicle.

CONTINUED ON
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Shah lands in Manipur to initiate peace measures

The Home Minister is likely to visit the Hill and Valley districts in the violence-hit State to assess the security situation, meet with civil society organisations; Meitei and Kuki groups welcome visit

Vijaita Singh
Rahul Karmakar
NEW DELHI/GUWAHATI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah arrived in Manipur on Monday on a three-day visit, his first since the violence broke out on May 3.

A senior government official said the Home Minister, whose flight landed in Imphal late in the evening, would hold several rounds of security meetings to assess the situation and plan steps to restore normalcy.

On his arrival, Mr. Shah met Chief Minister N. Biren Singh and other Ministers. He was accompanied by Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla and Intelligence Bureau Director Tapan Kumar Deka. He later held a meeting with Governor Anusuiya Uikey in Imphal.

In favour: Shah's visit is being seen as a positive step towards restoring peace in the State. ANI

During his stay, Mr. Shah is likely to travel to Churachandpur, Kangkokpi and Moreh – some of the areas most affected in the ongoing violence. He would also meet civil society organisations representing the Meitei, Kuki-Zo and the Nagas.

The Coordinating Committee on Manipur Integrity (COCOMI), a Meitei outfit, said in a statement that Mr. Shah's visit was a positive step towards restoring peace in the State. "We are speaking for everyone, including the Kukis. We are for the unity of Manipur but we are against the Kuki militants. We are likely to meet the Home Minister on Tuesday," Jeetendra Nimgonba, coordinator, COCOMI, said.

The COCOMI (and other Imphal-based organisations) stressed the need to take action against poppy growers and drug dealers in the hills surrounding the Imphal Valley. "The people of Manipur will not be able to come to any solution unless the State and Central governments take immediate actions to uproot these narco-terrorist aggressors," it said.

The United People's Front (UPF) and Kuki National Organisation (KNO), Kuki militant organisations that are in a suspension of operations pact with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and the Manipur government, said the Home Minister's visit has given a sense of security among the Kuki-Zo tribe.

CONTINUED ON
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Rolls-Royce booked on graft charge in Hawk aircraft deal

Devesh K. Pandey
NEW DELHI

The CBI has registered a case against British Aerospace Systems, Rolls-Royce Plc, its then director Tim Johns, two alleged middlemen, Sudhir Choudhrie and his son Bhanu Choudhrie, and unknown Indian public servants, for alleged corruption during 2003-2012 in the procurement of Hawk aircraft.

The agency had initiated an inquiry on December 15, 2016 against Rolls-Royce Plc, Mr. Sudhir Choudhrie, unknown officials of the Defence Ministry and others. It allegedly discovered that unknown officials conspired with Mr. Jones and others to cheat the Government of India in connection with the aircraft supply by Rolls-Royce and its associate group companies, including Rolls-Royce Turbomeca Limited, the FIR said.

The agency had initiated an inquiry against Rolls-Royce in December 2016.

The suspect public servants approved and procured 24 Hawk 115 Advance Jet Trainer aircraft for £734.21 million, besides permitting licensed manufacturing of 42 additional aircraft by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) against the materials supplied by the manufacturer for an additional amount of £308.247 million, and payment of £7.50 million towards the manufacturer's licence fee.

CONTINUED ON
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NEARBY

Ministers get portfolios

BENGALURU
Two days after the Cabinet expansion exercise, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday allocated portfolios to all Ministers and kept for himself important portfolios of Finance, Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms, Intelligence, IT/BT, Infrastructure Development and Information. » Page 4

BBMP polls to be held soon

BENGALURU
Soon after assuming charge as the Bengaluru Development Minister, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar announced on Monday that the pending BBMP elections will be held at the earliest. » Page 2

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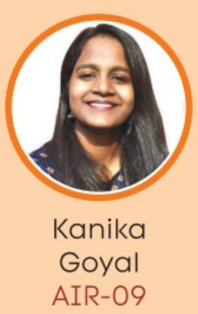
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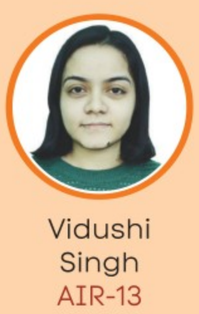
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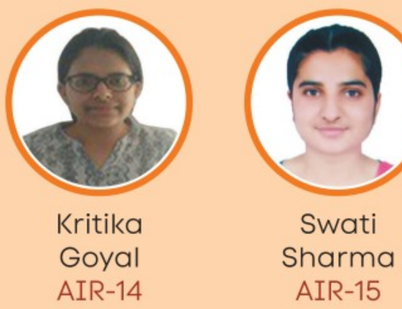
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A BG-BGE

As young Indian GMs make waves on global stage, it is time to take chess to the next level at home

Gukesh, Arjun, Praggnanandhaa and Nihal have made the country proud with their exploits; AICF, however, has to take a closer look at the women's game and try to spot young talent and groom them

P.K. Ajith Kumar

Masters of the 64 squares: While Gukesh, Praggnanandhaa, Arjun and Nihal have backed their potential with dazzling performances, Humpy and Harika remain India's leading women in International events.
B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM, B. VELANKANNI RAJ & DEBASISH BHADURI

It is hardly a surprise to find fans travelling far to watch their favourite cricket or football teams in action. For all the replays, close-up shots and analyses by experts that you get to watch on your television set or the mobile phone there is nothing quite like watching a sporting contest at the stadium.

But, can you imagine a family boarding a flight from New Delhi to watch a chess tournament in Chennai or Kolkata? People are doing that in India now.

While reporting on the Chess Olympiad in Chennai and the Tata Steel Chess India tournament in Kolkata, one came across several such ardent fans of the game. For the Olympiad they had to buy tickets, costing ₹3,000.

Rising popularity

That shows the rising popularity of the mind sport in India. Chess is popular in India because players from the country are doing well on the global stage. India is in fact one of the major powers in international chess. It is ranked No. 2 in the world, behind the United States. Even the USA, or other top countries like Russia and China, cannot boast of a group of gifted teenagers that India possesses.

D. Gukesh, Arjun Erigaisi, R. Praggnanandhaa and Nihal Sarin are all exceptional players. Gukesh is ranked No. 18 in the world, Arjun 37, Praggnanandhaa 47 and Nihal 64. Four other Indians are in the top 100.

Viswanathan Anand is the highest ranked among them, at No. 9. The five-time World champion is now 53 and plays competitive chess occasionally. But he acts as a mentor to India's most promising players - including the fabulous four – and the setting up of the WestBridge Anand Chess Academy is one of the best things to have happened to Indian chess of late. Not merely could Anand give valuable tips to the youngsters, the opportunity to interact with their idol and one of the greatest players of all time will boost their morale, too.

Even while he was being an active player, Anand used to follow the Indian players closely and compliment them on their achievements. Now, you could see Anand is justifiably proud of his wards. The five-time World champion is doing something similar to Indian chess what former World champion Mikhail Botvinnik did in Russia (or the erstwhile Soviet Union, to be precise).

Anand remains the only World champion from India. It may be a while before another Indian emulates Anand, but given how young players like Gukesh and Arjun are progressing, India should be able to produce a challenger for the World title. All these teenagers are doing well in international tournaments. Rarely a day passes without one of the young Indians making headlines with their exploits on the chessboard.

But you won't find a young Indian female chess player making news that often. Though India has a world-beater in Koneru Humpy – she is ranked No. 3 and a former World rapid chess champion – and Dronavalli Harika, who is World No. 13, the women's game does not have too many exciting prospects.

B. Savitha Shri, who won the bronze medal at the World women's rapid championship last December as a 16-year-old, shows promise. And Praggnanandhaa's elder sister R. Vaishali is making rapid progress, too. And there is also the 17-year-old Divya Deshmukh. But, the All India Chess Federation has to take a closer look at women's chess and try to identify young talent and groom them.

The AICF is no doubt doing a reasonable job overall. But it could do more.

We saw what a high profile event like the Chess Olympiad could do to raise the profile of the game. There were days when more than 10,000 people came to watch the games – to add to the millions that were following the tournament online – at Mamallapuram, near Chennai.

The large Indian contingents – the host had fielded three teams each in the open and women's sections – were mobbed by the fans. It was a new experience for the players, and they loved it. There was unprecedented media coverage, too. The Chess Olympiad made chess mainstream. One recalls the World championship match in Chennai, between Anand and Carlsen, attracting spectators and good media coverage.

But Anand in his peak rarely got an opportunity to play in India: before the Chennai World championship, his only events at home were the World championship in New Delhi in 2000 and the World Cup in Hyderabad in 2002. Apart from the official FIDE events, the AICF didn't bother to host an elite tournament that Anand could have played.

Things haven't improved on that count. The only World class event India has is the Tata Steel Chess India, and that too, because of the Tata group.

With India having so many stars, conducting elite chess tournaments shouldn't be too difficult, by making earnest efforts to rope in corporate sponsorships.

Newcastle is here to play with the big boys and will not settle for mediocrity

Aneesh Dey

All-round effort: While the Saudi money helped in landing big players like Alexander Isak and Bruno Guimaraes, Newcastle's run to the Champions League was all down to manager Eddie Howe's shrewd team management. It helped that in Dan Burn and Kieran Trippier he had two of the best defenders in the business. GETTY IMAGES, AFP

The final whistle blew at St. James' Park. Newcastle United had played out a goalless draw against Leicester City, but the mood was of celebration in the Magpies camp.

Someone not up to date with the proceedings of the Premier League might have questioned the need for such pomp and gaiety over just a point. But it wasn't just a point.

That one point ensured Newcastle head coach Eddie Howe and his men a Champions League spot. It was the first time the club had qualified for Europe's premier club competition since 2003, during the time of Alan Shearer.

It is easy to negate Newcastle's achievements by putting the club in a box – another team whose fortunes have drastically changed after a Middle-Eastern takeover – Manchester City being the most obvious reference point. However, if one takes the trouble to peer through the intricacies of Howe's management, they are bound to realise that it is not just a big pocket that has led to this achievement.

Buying right

Howe is not a manager who has always had the luxury of signing his preferred players. During his Bournemouth days, he operated on a shoestring budget but caught everyone's eye because of his expansive style of football.

Newcastle United's financial prowess, after the takeover by the Public Investment Fund of Saudi Arabia, is vast. Newcastle indeed used its money to acquire some serious talent, but didn't splurge on big-money marquee players, who are often bought from a marketing perspective rather than a footballing one.

Alexander Isak (£63m), Anthony Gordon (£45m), Bruno Guimaraes (£42m) and Sven Botman (£35m) are some of the high-profile signings Newcastle made under Howe. Truth be told, if not for the Saudi backing, someone like an Isak or a Guimaraes might not have been signed. But the way Howe shaped Newcastle and created a team to suit his style of football has been commendable.

Balanced approach

Unlike the subdued low block in the Steve Bruce era, Newcastle United, under Howe's tutelage, has focused on a more balanced approach that aims to increase efficiency throughout the pitch, without excessive focus on particular areas.

While formations are not absolute, the Magpies have often gone with a 4-3-3 approach.

They have had proficient wingers like Allan Saint-Maximin and Miguel Almiron, who have not only been adept in carrying the ball and creating chances but also pressing the opposition team.

Anyone following Newcastle's pattern would notice how packed their midfield is. While players like Sean Longstaff, Joelinton and Anthony Gordon provided energy in the middle of the park, the talented Guimaraes operated between the channels and played the role of being the main creator. Also, the Brazilian's ability to break the opponent's press made him a valuable asset for the Magpies. Isak, who operated in the No. 9 role, displayed the attributes of a modern striker, with the ability to threaten with his feet and head.

Defensive stability

While Howe is characterised by his proactive approach, Newcastle United did not compromise on defensive stability and compactness. It finished the league campaign, having conceded just 33 goals – the joint-best record along with champion Manchester City. This stat alone, is a metric of how solid the Magpies have been in executing their defensive duties.

In Dan Burn and Kieran Trippier, Newcastle had talented defenders, who showed enthusiasm in joining the attack. Trippier's threat from set-pieces was an additional bonus. Botman looked like a centre-back who seemed comfortable in soaking pressure and being patient during lengthy attacking phases and he was ably complemented by Fabian Schar, with the two developing a good understanding between them.

Finally, having an assertive and confident goalkeeper like Nick Pope was greatly beneficial. He did an excellent job of commanding his backline and maintaining constant communication with his defenders.

Before Newcastle's resurgence, seeing the club on big occasions was not a common sight. But that changed this season.

Statement of intent

Reaching the Carabao Cup final was a statement of intent by Newcastle that it was here to fight and not just participate. It did lose to Manchester United in the final and its wait for a first major domestic trophy since 1955 continues. However, it was not a walk in the park for United, with Newcastle dominating the game on multiple occasions and also creating some worthwhile chances.

In the Premier League, it bagged 19 wins from 38 matches, which is a 50 per cent win-record. It played out a draw 14 times and lost just five games – once to Man City, twice against Liverpool, once versus Aston Villa and once against runner-up Arsenal.

It also played out a 3-3 draw against City, won 2-0 against Man United and completed the league double over Tottenham Hotspur, including a 6-1 home win.

This is a stark indication that Newcastle is here to play with the big boys and will not harbour mediocre ambitions. While it has the cash to strengthen its squad, using that money judiciously will be a determining factor – a leaf Howe might take out of Pep Guardiola's book.

There couldn't be a better platform than the Champions League to announce your arrival. Gone are the days when it battled in the second flight, fighting for promotion. Newcastle now has the money. It has the fans. Most importantly, Newcastle has a manager who is in control of the ship.

Citizens fear flooding of city roads during monsoon

According to senior Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike officials, the main reason for flooding is run-off water on the streets during a downpour, and the only solution is to create recharge wells

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

Rainwater at Sai Layout at Hennur during the heavy rains in September 2022.

The news of Bengaluru roads getting flooded has been hitting the headlines for years. The pre-monsoon rain this year has already exposed the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) lack of preparedness for the monsoon.

Torrential rains and hailstorms which battered Bengaluru on May 21 claimed the life of Bhanurekha, a 23-year-old employee at Infosys, after the car she was travelling in was submerged in water in an underpass at K.R. Circle.

A day later, a 31-year-old man drowned in an overflowing storm-water drain in K.P. Agarahara. All these incidents came even as the palike came under severe criticism for its failure to manage floods last year.

After the recent incidents, the civic body prepared a report on the flooding of Bengaluru roads and underpasses. The report prepared by B.S. Prahlad, Chief Engineer (Road Infrastructure), BBMP, said, "In an unusual scenario, flooding at the underpass was caused by rainwater that carried leaves and branches that had fallen due to gusty winds."

Why roads flood

According to senior BBMP officials, the main reason for flooding is run-off water on the streets during a downpour. "The time taken for the run-off water to recede into drains is technically called reaction time. The reaction time is prolonged for various reasons, including the amount of run-off, the time window in which the rain lashed the particular point, and the avenues for the water to recede. All factors contributed to the longer reaction time leading to flooding," an official said.

The officials added that the only solution to flooding is to create recharge wells. "We need to create water recharge wells by the streets so that we capture the rainwater, avoid flooding, and also recharge the underground water table," officials explained.

Meanwhile, officials said that preparations to avoid the flooding of roads are going on. "Drain works are going on in most parts of the city in preparation for the monsoon," another BBMP official said.

According to a BBMP official, of the 209 locations identified as flood-prone areas, the civic body could only resolve storm-water drain issues in 84 places. The BBMP has now started to deploy pumpsets to flush out water, and ducts on the roads.

The situation has forced citizens to volunteer to clear the floodwaters. Recently, 31-year-old Dushyant Dubey emerged as an example by clearing flood water on the roads in Indiranagar when it rained.

Meanwhile, experts say that flooding can be avoided by cleaning the inlets on the roads.

M.N. Sreehari, an expert on urban infrastructure and policy, said, "Most drains in the city have been reduced to dumpyards, and lakes have been encroached upon. Very importantly, the inlets on roads that have to make way for rainwater have been blocked. All this is causing flooding on roads."

"The civic body should focus on cleaning the drains near roads, and also clear the encroachments of the roads. Apart from this, BBMP and BWSSB must coordinate to maintain inlets on the side of the roads. Construction on the roads, like metro construction, will also block water passage. Hence, planning during construction is very important to avoid flooding on roads," Mr. Sreehari added.

Woman's death: Lokayukta initiates *suo motu* action

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Lokayukta has taken *suo motu* cognisance of the death of Bhanurekha, a 23-year-old, after the car she was traveling in submerged in the underpass at K.R. Circle on May 21.

The Lokayukta directed the Inspector-General of Police to investigate the matter and look into the report against the eight officials of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), including the Chief Commissioner, Zonal Commissioner, Executive Engineer, and others, and submit the report on or before June 5.

In his order on Tuesday, Lokayukta Justice B.S. Patil said that the BBMP has been entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring proper maintenance of the drains for the free flow of water. But prima facie, there has been negligence on the part of the officials concerned.

Every citizen living within the municipal area has the right to have roads maintained in reasonable condition, which is part of the fundamental right guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution.

It is well settled that the right to life means the quality of life guaranteed under Article 21, creating the obligation and duty of the State and the authorities concerned to provide civic amenities. The municipal authorities should maintain roads and footpaths to provide pollution and obstruction-free movements on roads and footpaths, the Lokayukta order said.

The Lokayukta officials have issued notices to the officials concerned.

Water leak in Whitefield Kadugodi metro terminal station after rain

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Rainfall for around 20 minutes on Sunday evening exposed chinks in the Whitefield (Kadugodi) metro terminal station as water seeped in through the roof and stagnated on the platform.

Whitefield Rising shared videos on Twitter of passengers walking on the concourse and staircase of the metro station that had stagnant rainwater.

"Passengers getting off the train had to negotiate a wet platform and slippery staircase (with raindrops through the roof above) to exit the station. This was during today's downpour. Passengers wonder what is in store for them during the forthcoming monsoon months," Whitefield Rising tweeted on Sunday night.

The Mahadevapura Task Force, headed by the constituency MLA Manjula Aravind Limbavali, said, "As per the update received from Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL), the contractor had taken up core-cutting for cable routing through the roof channel. They will attend to it on priority."

A similar incident was reported at Nallurahalli station on April 4.

BBMP polls to be held at the earliest: DKS

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru City Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar at a meeting with BBMP officials on Monday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Soon after assuming charge as the Bengaluru Development Minister, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar announced on Monday that the pending Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) elections will be held at the earliest.

Speaking after holding a meeting with top officials of the civic body, he said, "We do not want the administration to fully be in the hands of the officials. We will constitutionally hold the elections, and the BBMP should also get ready for it."

At the meeting, Mr. Shivakumar spoke about bringing in various changes in the functioning of the civic body. He also ordered them to amp up work related to monsoon preparedness immediately.

"Identify the bottlenecks which prevent the smooth flow of rainwater and rectify them. Due to the problems faced during rain, apart from the government and BBMP, the city itself is getting a bad name," Mr. Shivakumar told the officials.

He also demanded accountability from the BBMP and ordered them to submit photo and video records, along with details about expenses for all the civic works which have been taken in the last three years under various projects, constituency wise.

Mr. Shivakumar said that the works which have not begun even after the release of grants and the works which have not been completed within the stipulated time should be paused immediately. "A list of projects which have been billed without work, projects which have been double billed and the works for which two companies have given the same bills should be provided within ten days," he said in the meeting.

He also said that he would conduct inspections at the places where civic works are going on. Further, he said that the BBMP officials should take pictures and videos of places before starting civic work there.

Later in the evening, Mr. Shivakumar also held a meeting with top Bangalore Development Authority officials.

21st edition of The Hindu Education Plus career counselling from June 3

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The 21st edition of The Hindu Education Plus Career Counselling will be held at 10 locations in nine cities across Karnataka from June 3, 2023.

The event will provide guidance to students on the UPSC exam, CET counselling and NEET counselling by Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) officials, and also career guidance on courses in Arts, Science, Commerce, Law, Fashion Designing, Journalism, Animation, Performing Arts, Management, Engineering, Medicine and many more.

THE HINDU EDUCATIONPLUS career counselling 2023

The event will provide a platform to connect students and parents with experts and educational institutions. The event also helps students make the right decisions after getting the right counselling and guidance.

Timing for registration is between 9.00 a.m. and 9.30 a.m.

The event will be held between 9.30 a.m. and 1 p.m. For details, contact: 9845095781 / 9448160126 / 9448871815. Entry is free. All participating students will get career counselling book free.

The Hindu Education Plus career counselling - 2023

Place	Date	Venue	Address
Mangaluru	03/06/2023	Geetha S.M. Shetty Hall	Ramakrishna College, Bunts' Hostel Circle, Mangaluru
Jayanagar	03/06/2023	NMKRV Shashwathi Auditorium	22nd Cross, Jayanagar 3rd Block, Bengaluru
Davangere	04/06/2023	GM Institute of Technology	Auditorium Hall, Post Box No.4, P.B. Road, Davangere
Bidar	04/06/2023	Sri Poojya Channabasava Pattadevaru Rang Mandir	Near district stadium, Bidar
Malleswaram	10/06/2023	Chowdiah Memorial Hall	16th Cross Road. Malleswaram, Bengaluru
Hubballi	10/06/2023	K.L.E Society's Biotechnology Auditorium	B.V.B. College of Engineering & Technology Campus, Vidyanagar, Hubballi
Ballari	10/06/2023	Basavarajeshwari Public School & College (BPSC)	Anantapur Road, Ballari
Mysuru	11/06/2023	Vidyavardhaka College of Engineering	P.B. No.206, Gokulam III Stage, Mysuru
Tumakuru	11/06/2023	Birla Auditorium	Siddaganga Institute of Technology, Tumakuru
Kalaburagi	18/06/2023	Poojya Doddappa Appa Sabha Bhavan	Poojya Doddappa Appa Sabha Bhavan, Sharana Basava University, Kalaburagi

Event sponsors

The platinum sponsor is Presidency University, Bengaluru

The gold sponsor is Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences and Siddaganga Institute Of Technology, Tumakuru.

The silver sponsors are ACS College of Engineering, Bengaluru; Atria Institute of Technology, Bengaluru; GSSS Institute of Engineering and Technology for Women, Mysuru; Insights IAS, Bengaluru; JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research, Mysuru; Malnad College of Engineering, Hassan; Rajarajeswari College of Engineering, Bengaluru; R.V. University, Bengaluru; Sir M. Visvesvaraya Institute of Technology, Bengaluru; St Joseph Engineering College, Mangaluru; and Vidyavardhaka College of Engineering, Mysuru.

The associate sponsors are Bank Of Maharashtra; Bheemanna Khandre Institute Of Technology, Bhalki; CMR University, Bengaluru, Karnataka Bank; Karnataka State Open University, Mysuru; Khaja Banda Nawaz University, Kalburgi; Navkis College of Engineering, Hassan. SDM Educational Society (R), Ujire; Shaheen group of institutions, Bidar; UCO Bank, Visvesvaraya Technological University, Belagavi.

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PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME

I, VISHWANATHA Manjunath, S/O. Manjunath Giriappa, R/O.no 86 87, No 1b, Gnd Flr, Kanakashree Res, Nagappa Lyt, Near Maruthi Lyt, Uttarahalli, Blr, 61, have changed name to Vishwanath Manjunath vide afdvt dtd 25/05/2023

I Rishabh Parashar S/o Rajender Parashar, residing at 1220, 2nd Main Road, 2nd Cross, Kacharakanahalli St. Thomas Town Post, HRBR Layout, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560084, have changed the name of minor Daughter Jaisnavi aged 3 years and she shall hereafter be known as Jayanti Parashar for all purposes in future

I, CHERUMANDANDA Subbaiah spouse of No.7062182 H Sepoy (CFN) (Retired) Baliada Palangappa Kaveriappa (Late) residing at No. D151, DS MAX Sankalp Manor, Kane Road, Kalkere, Horamavu Agara, Bengaluru-560043 have changed my name by Cherumandanda Subbaiah to Cherumandanda Subbaiah Gangamma, vide affidavit No. IN-KA73716771039696V dated 27-05-2023 sworn to before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, B'luru.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, BANDANA Das Chandra spouse of Nidhu Chandra resident of No.66, 6th cross, Cambridge Layout, Halasuru, Bangalore-560008 have change my name from Bandana Das Chandra to Bandana Das vide Affidavit dated 26-05-2023 before Notary A.R. Muneer Ahmed, Bengaluru metropolitan.

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Generative AI's 'hallucinations' may foster denial of science

Even if you don't use generative AI, it is likely you have already read articles created by it or developed from it. It can take time and effort to find and evaluate reliable information about science online – but it is worth it

Gale Sinatra
Barbara K. Hofer

Until very recently, if you wanted to know more about a controversial scientific topic - stem cell research, the safety of nuclear energy, climate change - you probably did a Google search. Presented with multiple sources, you chose what to read, selecting which sites or authorities to trust.

Now you have another option: You can pose your question to ChatGPT or another generative artificial intelligence platform and quickly receive a succinct response in paragraph form.

ChatGPT does not search the internet the way Google does. Instead, it generates responses to queries by predicting likely word combinations from a massive amalgam of available online information.

Although it has the potential for enhancing productivity, generative AI has been shown to have some major faults. It can produce misinformation. It can create "hallucinations" - a benign term for making things up. And it doesn't always accurately solve reasoning problems. For example, when asked if both a car and a tank can fit through a doorway, it failed to consider both width and height. Nevertheless, it is already being used to produce articles and website content you may have encountered, or as a tool in the writing process. Yet you are unlikely to know if what you're reading was created by AI.

As the authors of *Science Denial: Why It Happens and What to Do About It*, we are concerned about how generative AI may blur the boundaries between truth and fiction for those seeking authoritative scientific information.

Every media consumer needs to be more vigilant than ever in verifying scientific accuracy in what they read. Here's how you can stay on your toes in this new information landscape.

Representative photo. UDAY MITTAL/UNSPLASH

Science denial

Erosion of epistemic trust: All consumers of science information depend on judgments of scientific and medical experts. Epistemic trust is the process of trusting knowledge you get from others. It is fundamental to the understanding and use of scientific information. Whether someone is seeking information about a health concern or trying to understand solutions to climate change, they often have limited scientific understanding and little access to firsthand evidence. With a rapidly growing body of information online, people must make frequent decisions about what and whom to trust. With the increased use of generative AI and the potential for manipulation, we believe trust is likely to erode further than it already has.

Misleading or just plain wrong: If there are errors or biases in the data on which AI platforms are trained, that can be reflected in the results. In our own searches, when we have asked ChatGPT to regenerate multiple answers to the same question, we have gotten conflicting answers. Asked why, it responded, "Sometimes I make mistakes." Perhaps the trickiest issue with AI-generated content is knowing when it is wrong.

Intentional disinformation : AI can be used to generate compelling disinformation as text as well as deepfake images and videos. When we asked ChatGPT to "write about vaccines in the style of disinformation," it produced a nonexistent citation with fake data. Geoffrey Hinton, former head of AI development at Google, quit to be free to sound the alarm, saying, "It is hard to see how you can prevent the bad actors from using it for bad things." The potential to create and spread deliberately incorrect information about science already existed, but it is now dangerously easy.

Fabricated sources: ChatGPT provides responses with no sources at all, or if asked for sources, may present ones it made up. We both asked ChatGPT to generate a list of our own publications. We each identified a few correct sources. More were hallucinations, yet seemingly reputable and mostly plausible, with actual previous co-authors, in similar sounding journals. This inventiveness is a big problem if a list of a scholar's publications conveys authority to a reader who doesn't take time to verify them.

Dated knowledge: ChatGPT doesn't know what happened in the world after its training concluded. A query on what percentage of the world has had COVID-19 returned an answer prefaced by "as of my knowledge cutoff date of September 2021." Given how rapidly knowledge advances in some areas, this limitation could mean readers get erroneous outdated information. If you're seeking recent research on a personal health issue, for instance, beware.

Poor transparency: AI systems continue to become more powerful and learn faster, and they may learn more science misinformation along the way. Google recently announced 25 new embedded uses of AI in its services. At this point, insufficient guardrails are in place to assure that generative AI will become a more accurate purveyor of scientific information over time.

What can you do?

If you use ChatGPT or other AI platforms, recognise that they might not be completely accurate. The burden falls to the user to discern accuracy.

Increase your vigilance: AI fact-checking apps may be available soon, but for now, users must serve as their own fact-checkers. There are steps we recommend. The first is: Be vigilant. People often reflexively share information found from searches on social media with little or no vetting. Know when to become more deliberately thoughtful and when it's worth identifying and evaluating sources of information. If you're trying to decide how to manage a serious illness or to understand the best steps for addressing climate change, take time to vet the sources.

> Know when to become more deliberately thoughtful and when it's worth identifying and evaluating sources of information

Improve your fact-checking: A second step is lateral reading, a process professional fact-checkers use. Open a new window and search for information about the sources, if provided. Is the source credible? Does the author have relevant expertise? And what is the consensus of experts? If no sources are provided or you don't know if they are valid, use a traditional search engine to find and evaluate experts on the topic.

Evaluate the evidence: Next, take a look at the evidence and its connection to the claim. Is there evidence that genetically modified foods are safe? Is there evidence that they are not? What is the scientific consensus? Evaluating the claims will take effort beyond a quick query to ChatGPT.

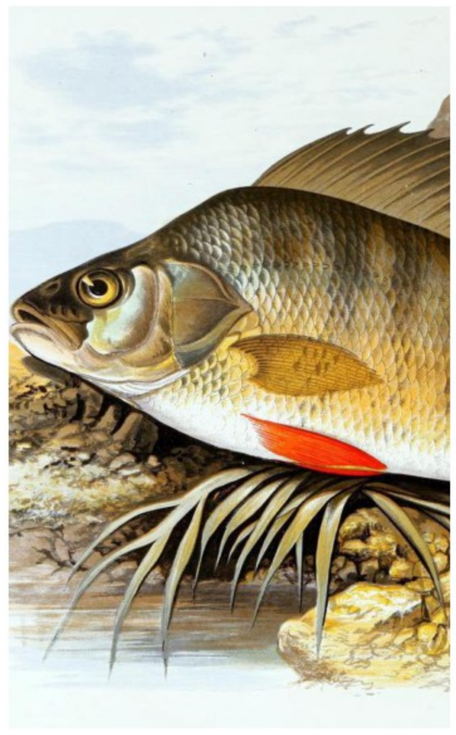
Don't stop with AI: Exercise caution in using it as the sole authority on any scientific issue. You might see what ChatGPT has to say about genetically modified organisms or vaccine safety, but also follow up with a more diligent search using traditional search engines before you draw conclusions.

Assess plausibility: Judge whether the claim is plausible. Is it likely to be true? If AI makes an implausible (and inaccurate) statement like "1 million deaths were caused by vaccines, not COVID-19," consider if it even makes sense. Make a tentative judgment and then be open to revising your thinking once you have checked the evidence.

Promote digital literacy: Everyone needs to up their game. Improve your own digital literacy, and if you are a parent, teacher, mentor or community leader, promote digital literacy in others. The American Psychological Association provides guidance on fact-checking online information and recommends teens be trained in social media skills to minimise risks to health and well-being. The News Literacy Project provides helpful tools for improving and supporting digital literacy.

Arm yourself with the skills you need to navigate the new AI information landscape. Even if you don't use generative AI, it is likely you have already read articles created by it or developed from it. It can take time and effort to find and evaluate reliable information about science online - but it is worth it.

(Gale Sinatra is professor of Education and Psychology, University of Southern California. Barbara K. Hofer is professor of Psychology Emerita, Middlebury. This article is republished from The Conversation.)



An illustration of European perch (*Perca fluviatilis*), c. 1879. ALEXANDER FRANCIS LYDON, PUBLIC DOMAIN

Bodies of fish could grow much larger in warmer waters: study

D.V.L.S. Pranathi

A study published last week said that aquatic animals such as fish will grow larger due to warm water pollution, i.e. water heated by warm pollutants.

The finding questions an idea that the bodies of fish will shrink in a warming world. Specifically, scientists had expected that cold-blooded animals, or ectotherms, would grow faster at a younger age but reach smaller body sizes as adults.

The new study, published in *eLife*, was conducted by researchers from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala. They studied samples of Eurasian perch (*Perca fluviatilis)* collected over 24 years, to investigate the effects of warming on the body sizes of ectotherms. These fish were taken to an enclosed bay into which a nuclear power plant nearby discharged water, heating the bay by 5-10 °C over its surroundings.

The team also reported that although the female perch in the warmer area grew faster, as expected, they continued to do so throughout their lives, which was surprising

They collated older data to estimate the expected death rates, population size, and distribution for this fish, at various ages. Then they compared this to the corresponding data for perch from the bay and perch from a water-body nearby that wasn't being warmed by pollutants. Finally they combined this with knowledge of the fishes' sizes at different ages.

According to the paper, only female fish were studied because male and female perch have different body sizes.

The researchers found that all the perch in the bay grew faster and were significantly larger than those from the nearby water-body. Their body sizes were larger than they should have been at all ages. The affected fish also had higher growth and death rates than the unaffected ones - but their bodies were still 2 cm larger.

The team also reported that although the female perch in the warmer area grew faster, as expected, they continued to do so throughout their lives, which was surprising. "The primary significance I think is that fish grow faster when it gets warmer," the paper's coauthor Max Lindmark told *The Hindu* in an email. Dr. Lindmark is a researcher at the Department of Aquatic Resources, Institute of Marine Research, SUAS.

"This is well-known for small and young fish, but we don't observe that this positive effect disappears when they grow bigger and older. In fact, it's maintained throughout life: in contrast to common predictions, not only do fish reach their maximum body size faster, they also reach a larger maximum body size."

(The author is an intern at The Hindu.)

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

The accomplishments of the brilliant Bernoulli family

Vasudevan Mukunth

QUESTION 1
The Bernoulli numbers are named for Jacob Bernoulli and have applications in several areas of mathematics. In 1842, a method to calculate the values of these numbers became famous as the first _____ _____ _____.

QUESTION 2
When a string is suspended between two poles, it sags in a curved shape called _____. In 1691, Jacob Bernoulli correctly described its shape and solved some important problems related to it.

QUESTION 3
Brothers Jacob and Johann Bernoulli fought over a problem: the shortest time a bead will take to travel on a frictionless string from point A above to point B below only under the influence of gravity. What is the shape of the path travelled in this time called?

QUESTION 4
In 1738, Daniel Bernoulli described a principle in fluid dynamics named after him. Which common component of a vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine uses this principle to operate?

QUESTION 5
In 1713, Nicolaus I Bernoulli introduced a problem: a coin would be tossed successively; a player wins 2^(n + 1) dollars, where n is the number of consecutive heads; when the coin lands tails, the game ends. The problem asked what a reasonable price of admission to play the game should be. Name the game.

Visual question: Identify this man, who was a friend, student, teacher, and later family member of the Bernoullis, and is considered one of the greatest mathematicians ever. PUBLIC DOMAIN

Answers to May 25 quiz:
1. Largest and smallest cells in the human body – **Ans: Ovum and sperm**
2. Large ecosystem in a certain type of climate – **Ans: Biome**
3. Two 'French' elements apart from francium – **Ans: Gallium and lutetium**
4. Element making up 2.5% of earth's crust – **Ans: Potassium**
5. Protein from which gelatin is derived – **Ans: Collagen**
Visual – **Ans: Tim Berners-Lee**
First contact: Siva Shakthi A. | Srijan Patra | Ashraf Basha | Anusha Tomar | Paramjit Singh

For feedback and suggestions
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‘Polluting children’s minds can’t be condoned’

Education sector will not be allowed to be adulterated in the name of the National Education Policy, says Chief Minister Siddaramaiah

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has promised writers that the “act of polluting children’s minds through texts and lessons cannot be condoned.” As the academic year has started, action will be taken so that the education of the children is not disturbed, he said.

“The education sector will not be allowed to be adulterated in the name of the National Education Policy (NEP-2020). A separate meeting will be convened in this regard again to discuss it comprehensively and take strict and definite decisions,” he said, during a meeting with more than 40 writers and heads of various organisations at Home Office Krishna on Monday.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah with writers in Bengaluru on Monday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The writers demanded the withdrawal of the school textbooks which were revised by the committee, headed by right-wing writer Rohith Chakrateertha, under the BJP government. The writers alleged that these textbooks were “anti-constitutional and communal” and should be amended immediately and “the bad effect on the minds of children should be prevented”.

K. Marulasiddappa, S.G. Siddaramaiah, Banjagere Jayaprakash, Vasudhara Bhupati, L.N. Mukundaraj, and educationist V.P. Niranjanaradhya were among those present.

They also demanded that the textbooks were revised against the wishes of the Constitution and without any proper order. Therefore, legal action should be taken against the chairman and team members of the previous text revision committee, they said.

“A clear instruction should be given to the authorities concerned not to distribute the contaminated books which have already reached the Block Education Officers (BEO) and schools. An expert committee should be constituted immediately to scrutinize all these books and revise the textbooks in line with today’s changes,” they said in the meeting according to a release from the CM’s office.

‘Reject NEP’

The writers also demanded that in the first session of the Assembly, a resolution should be passed to reject the NEP. “There is no transparency in NEP and it will secretly achieve Hindu nationalism based on religious communalism instead of pluralistic nationalism advocated by the Constitution,” they alleged.

“According to this NEP, everything that was implemented in the Primary and Secondary Education and the Higher Education sectors should be stopped and the status quo should maintain before the implementation of the policy. It should be officially communicated to the Union government,” the writers demanded.

Along with protection for the writers, various reforms in the education sector, filling vacancies, distributing bicycles, distributing eggs for all students, effective implementation of the Right to Education Act (RTE), withdrawal of false cases against writers, farmers, Dalits, and Kannada activists, and other demands were put to the Chief Minister.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said that hate politics will not be tolerated and the environment of fear will be eradicated. “There is no question of compromise on the issue of protecting the harmony and secular heritage of the Karnataka. False cases against Kannada activists, farmers, Dalits, and writers will be withdrawn. I have already issued stern instructions to the Director-General of Police to take strict action against moral policing, slanderous trolls and those who threaten writers. I will consider the facts seriously and our government will take action as per requirement,” Mr. Siddaramaiah said.

Timings
BENGALURU

TUESDAY, MAY. 30	
RISE	05:53 SET 18:42
RISE	14:29 SET 02:07
WEDNESDAY, MAY. 31	
RISE	05:53 SET 18:42
RISE	15:18 SET 02:43
THURSDAY, JUN. 01	
RISE	05:53 SET 18:42
RISE	16:09 SET 03:21

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	35	27
Mysuru	36	22
Bengaluru	33	23

Bengaluru Today
35°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be warm and humid. Chances of duststrom and thundershower with gusty winds. Night will be pleasant.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
32°C The weather will be little warm and humid. Few spells of moderate to heavy rain or thundershower with gusty winds to occur.

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THE HINDU
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Back to school

Children of the Kannada Primary School at Padmanabhanagar walk into their classrooms after schools reopened in Bengaluru on Monday. BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

Many walk long distances to reach school in Shivamogga

Sathish G.T.
KUMSI (SHIVAMOGGA)

Divya R., a resident of Chikkamarasa village in Shivamogga taluk, has walked for about 6 km every day to attend classes at National High School, a government-aided school, in Kumsi village to complete high school. Now, after completing her SSLC, Divya is joining a pre-university college in Kumsi, and she has to continue to walk to reach college.

“Except for a bus that reaches the village at 6 p.m., we have no public transport facility”, said Divya on Monday. She was at her school on the day when the school reopened for the current academic year to collect her transfer certificate to join the college.

Every day, Divya and 10 other students walk to school. “We normally leave the village by 9 a.m. to reach the school by 10 a.m.” Again, we walk back in a group in the evening. Many times, we are struck by heavy rains,” she said. Her village has only a lower primary school, where children can study up to Class 5. Earlier, the government provided bicycles for high school students. The scheme was stopped three years ago. “We did not get the bicycles, which would have helped us reach school,” added Divya.

Around 35 students of National High School at Kumsi in Shivamogga taluk walk to school from villages in the absence of transportation facilities. SATHISH G.T.

Another group of students from Doddamatti, also a remote village in Shivamogga taluk, reach school by walking for about 6 km on each side every day. “Students of Doddamatti walk for about 10-12 km a day. A majority of them have joined the hostel due to the distance from the school,” said Y. Prahlad, Headmaster of the school. Of the 110 students enrolled in the school, more than 35 come from villages with no transport facilities, he added.

Similarly, students from Balekoppa, Hubbanahalli, Marasa and a few other villages travel every day to reach the school at Kumsi. Even after repeated demands from the students, their parents, and the public, the government has not provided them with proper transportation services.

Ajay Rao K.B., a Class 6 student in the Government Higher Primary School at Kumsi, said sometimes his uncle drops him off at school in the morning, but in the evening he has to walk back with his classmates. “Pooja, Sara, Preetham, Prakruthi, and Chaya also walk with me from Chikkamarasa village to the school. During the rainy season, we carry an umbrella. I don’t know how many more years we should continue like this,” he said. He was engaged in cleaning the classrooms along with his friends on the first day, Monday. “Classes will start regularly on May 31. We are cleaning the classrooms and school premises, to welcome students on May 31,” said Poornima Varnekar, Headmistress of the school.

Many villages in Sagar, Thirthahalli, Soraba, Shikaripur have no access to public transport. A majority of students depend on private vehicles to reach school. Residents of Kanasinakatte in Bhadravathi taluk boycotted the recent Assembly elections, citing the lack of bus facilities. “Minister for Education Madhu Bangarappa is from our district. I hope he understands the problems faced by students in his district and ensures villages get proper transport facilities,” said Nagaraj H., a resident of Ayanur.

When private schools can offer bus services to remote villages to pick up and drop students, why can’t the government have a similar system to strengthen government schools, asked Chandrashekhar, a resident of Kumsi.

“Private schools work out a route plan for their school buses, considering the students’ residential location. If buses reach villages, along with students, people will also benefit,” he added.

Trekker employed in Bengaluru rescued from Charmadi forests

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

Civilians joined the police and the forest department personnel to rescue software engineer Paresh Kishanlal Agarwal, hailing from Nagpur, from Charmadi forests in the area bordering Dakshina Kannada and Chikkamagaluru districts on Monday morning.

Mr. Agarwal, working in Bengaluru, trekked down from Rani Zhari falls in Chickamagaluru district towards Yermai Falls forest area on Sunday.

Having lost his way, Agarwal sent his location to his friends, who, in turn, informed police control room.

His friends also posted information about Mr. Agarwal in the group of trekkers from Bengaluru.

Software engineer Paresh Agarwal (centre) along with police and civilians who rescued him from Charmadi forest area on Monday. RAGHAVA M.

Sinan from Charmadi saw this information and he joined the team comprising of Mudigere’s Baluru police, Belthangady forest personnel and some Charmadi residents in search of Mr. Agarwal. Another team comprising of ambulance driver Jaleel Baba, police constable Shashidhar and a few other civilians also carried out the search.

The teams started the search around 5 p.m. on Sunday. Going through steep gradients and slippery terrain and encountering leech, the teams found an exhausted Mr. Agarwal around midnight. The teams offered him tea and biscuits and brought him to Belthangady around 6 a.m. on Monday. Mr. Agarwal was later sent in an ambulance to Balur police station.

Four students drown in lake

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A group of four college boys from the city drowned in Ramanathapura lake while swimming on Sunday.

The deceased have been identified as Faisal Khan, 19, Mohammed Israr, 18, Sheikh Tahir, 19, and Thouheed Ahmed, 19. The victims were from Chamundinagar, studying in a private PU college .

The group went on a joyride to Nandi Hills and stopped at Ramanathapura lake on the way back.

The police suspect two of them did not know to swim and began to drown, when they got into the water.

The other two jumped in the lake to rescue them and all the four drowned, said the police.

The police have registered a case of unnatural death and are investigating the matter.

PhD students of IISc. denied visa to attend meet in Canada

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Three PhD students of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc.) including two who are part of the Prime Minister’s Research Fellows (PMRF) Scheme, and an intern have been denied visas to attend an international conference in Canada.

While two students – Harsh Rangwani and Abhipsa Basu – are from Vision & AI Lab (VAL), which is part of the Department of Computational and Data Sciences, one student – Siddarth Asokan – is from the spectrum lab, which is part of the Electrical Engineering Department. The intern – Samyak Jain – is from IIT-BHU.

The students were to attend the conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR) 2023, which is to be held in Vancouver between June 18 and 22.

R. Venkatesh Babu, who heads VAL, said, “CVPR is a very prestigious conference for vision researchers, and India’s representation is very less. Less than 1% of accepted papers are from India. In the past, this conference had been held in the U.S. where our students presented their papers. But this time, the event is being organised in Canada. It is very unfortunate that our students have been denied visas despite applying for them two months ago.”

Earlier, Prof. Babu tweeted, ”Indian PhD students from @iiscbangalore, who have first-authored papers at prestigious conferences like @CVPR, are facing unjust denial of Canadian visas. With shocking reasons “limited employment possibilities in India” and “purpose of visit not consistent with a temp. stay”.

He urged Canadian immigration authorities to re-evaluate the visa applications of these students, and promote a more inclusive and globally connected research ecosystem.

REMEMBRANCE
3rd Year Death Anniversary

Shri. S. Venkatesan
Chartered Accountant
03-09-1944 - 30-05-2020
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GEETHA VENKATESAN AND FAMILY
Associates and Staff of
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No.1 IN INDIA THE IMPACT RANKINGS 2022

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

India's unemployment rate dips in January-March 2023

6.80 In percentage. This was the rate of unemployment for persons aged 15 years and above in urban areas compared to 8.2% a year ago, according to the NSSO. PTI

The flow of FDIs into India decline in 2022-23

22 In percentage. Foreign direct investments declined to $46 billion in 2022-23 from $58.77 during 2021-22, dragged by lower inflows in computer hardware, software, and automobiles, according to DPIIT data. PTI

Shanghai records the hottest May day ever in 100 years

36.1 In Celsius. Shanghai's temperature on Monday, broke a 100-year-old record for the highest temperature in May. In Bangladesh, Dhaka suffered its hottest day in 60 years. AFP

The aid approved by Asian Development Bank for Sri Lanka

350 In $ million. The loan is part of a package of financial assistance anchored by IMF's Extended Fund Facility for Sri Lanka. IMF recently extended a nearly $3 billion bailout to the country. PTI

The jihadists killed in a joint operation as per the claims of Niger

55 Niger's army said that high-ranking combatants affiliated with the Islamic State group had been killed in a 22-day operation. AFP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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The lack of teachers in higher education

Why are faculty shortages a problem? What are the two main obstacles which stand in the way of finding viable solutions to faculty shortages? Is the lack of educators really a quantitative problem or does it go beyond that?

EXPLAINER

Pushkar

Faculty shortages have existed in India's higher education sector at least since the 1980s, but seem to have become permanent today. The paucity of a sufficient number of faculty members undermines the growth of the country's knowledge sector and hinders its aspiration to be recognised as a "*vishwa guru*". Colleges and universities need a sufficient number of teachers and researchers to create and disseminate knowledge. There are two main obstacles to finding viable solutions to faculty shortages. The first is a lack of reliable data on current faculty resources in colleges and universities and the second is the partial understanding of faculty shortages as merely a quantitative issue.

Why is there no reliable data on faculty shortages?

In 2009, the (erstwhile) Ministry of Human Resource Development set up a task force to look into the problem. Its 2011 report titled 'Report of the Task Force On Faculty Shortage and Design of Performance Appraisal System', made a damning observation – "the fact that there is a huge shortage of teaching staff or faculty in the higher education system in India is not a surprise. What is, however, surprising is that this perception is not substantiated by factual data. There is no standing mechanism to collect this information regularly."

The report called for a standing mechanism to monitor the size and quality of faculty resources and for data on faculty members to be made available on the website of every academic institution. More than a decade later, little has changed. Most academic institutions have messy and incomplete websites containing only partial information about their faculty bodies.

The Faculty of Arts in Delhi University, in New Delhi. FILE PHOTO

While the government does collect data on colleges and universities, including the number of faculty members, for the annual All India Survey of Higher Education (AISHE), this is a voluntary process for various institutions. The responsibility for the accuracy of the data rests with the institution, meaning the information provided is not verified by any independent agency. Another problem is that there is often widespread use of adjunct faculty members and even 'ghost' members by colleges and universities. Adjunct or part-time faculty members are often counted as part of the regular faculty to show off a favourable teacher-student ratio. Therefore, it has become impossible to get a reliable estimate of faculty resources.

Are shortages a quantitative issue?

Stakeholders often misunderstand faculty shortages to be a quantitative issue. The nature and scope of the shortage is actually more complex. In fact, it is possible to identify six types of shortages, each with a different (but sometimes also overlapping) set of remedial measures.

The first kind is related to the fact that the number of faculty members varies across disciplines, institutions and locations. There may even be an oversupply in some disciplines or locations and an acute shortage in others. The challenge here is to first achieve some kind of balance between demand and supply in specific disciplines, which could help plug the shortages at different institutions and/or locations. The second kind of shortage is one that many public institutions face – the inability to hire faculty despite a desperate need for them. The reasons for this are financial and affect nearly all State universities. Most of them, and their constituent colleges, are grossly underfunded. Despite a large increase in the number of students, State governments have not created or sanctioned new positions. And even when such positions exist, they are kept vacant due to a lack of funds.

The third kind of shortage exists due to the unwillingness of institutions to hire faculty members. This is common in many private colleges whose primary purpose is profit-seeking. The owners and administrators at these institutions prefer to make do with less. They also hire less qualified people in poorly paid part-time positions instead of better qualified regular faculty members, to keep costs down. The fourth kind of shortage, common to all public institutions, is due to the reservations for members of Other Backward Classes and Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe groups. Reservations reduce the pool of qualified people, sometimes severely. One result is that faculty positions remain vacant due to the unavailability of qualified applicants. However, in many cases, positions remain vacant due to caste-based discrimination.

The fifth kind is due to an unwillingness among faculty members to work at select institutions due to their unfavourable location and/or the working and living conditions they present. And finally, faculty shortages are also of a qualitative kind where actual shortages may not exist, say, in terms of the number of applicants with PhDs but due to just a few candidates being really qualified for the corresponding position. This requires us to improve the quality of PhD programmes at Indian universities.

The six types of faculty shortages identified here are not necessarily mutually exclusive. However, they do indicate that a shortage is not about the numbers alone, and that any attempt at addressing it will require a nuanced set of policies.

Pushkar is director, The International Centre Goa (Dona Paula). Views expressed are personal.

THE GIST

- Faculty shortages have existed in India's higher education sector at least since the 1980s, but seem to have become permanent today. The paucity of a sufficient number of faculty members undermines the growth of the country's knowledge sector and hinders its aspiration to be recognised as a "*vishwa guru*".
- While the government does collect data on colleges and universities, including the number of faculty members, for the annual All India Survey of Higher Education (AISHE), this is a voluntary process for various institutions. The information provided is not verified by any independent agency.
- Stakeholders often misunderstand faculty shortages to be a quantitative issue. The nature and scope of the shortage is actually more complex.

What has India done to curb unnecessary hysterectomies?

What guidelines has the government put in place to check hysterectomy rates? What are treatment options?

Saumya Kalia

The story so far: The Union Health Ministry recently urged State governments to audit hysterectomy trends in public and private hospitals, in response to a Supreme Court petition arguing that women from marginalised locations are at risk of unjustified hysterectomies for economic gains and exploitation. The Court also gave a three-month deadline to States, directing them to implement the guidelines previously issued by the Centre.

What are the criteria for getting a hysterectomy?

The highest percentage of hysterectomies were to treat excessive menstrual bleeding or pain (51.8%); 24.94% for fibroids; 24.94% for cysts and 11.08% for uterine disorder or rupture, according to NFHS-5 data. Yet, studies have shown that "many of these causes were considered to be treatable and surgery could be avoided". A majority of these cases were reported among socially and economically disadvantaged women. The procedure can easily be misused by either private clinics who earn profits (from insurance money) or by contractors in unorganised sectors such as the sugar-cane-cutting industry, where 'wombless women' are the norm to eliminate the need for menstrual care and hygiene among workers.

What measures has the govt. taken?

The Union Health Ministry in 2022 issued guidelines to prevent unnecessary hysterectomies – listing possible indications of when hysterectomy may be required and alternative clinical treatments for gynaecological issues. Further, they recommended setting up district, State-level and national hysterectomy monitoring committees to monitor and collect data on age, mortality, and occupations, among other details. The monitoring committees are also tasked with creating awareness, among both practitioners and patients, about bodily anatomy, the role of uterus and when hysterectomies are actually indicated. A 2017 study from Gujarat found most women assumed that the uterus served no role outside of pregnancy and that removing the uterus would solve their health issues. There is a dearth of awareness, experts say, and in the absence of sexual and reproductive health education, "informed consent" to conduct the procedure can never be taken.

A 2019 investigation found that women from rural areas look at hysterectomies as a way of increasing days of productive work and earning more wages. While on the one side are patients in need of medical care for different ailments, "on the other side of the table is somebody who is just out to make quick money and do quick surgery" as "people have turned healthcare into a business", says Dr. Somya Gupta, a Delhi-based gynaecologist.

The government's flagship health insurance programme, the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana provides health cover of ₹5 lakh for 1,949 procedures, including hysterectomies. The government has authorised 45,434 hospitals to conduct these operations.

Is there an implementation gap?

The gap thrives in a culture where gynaecological care and disorders – outside of pregnancy – exist in oblivion, experts say.

The Supreme Court and Centre's reiteration of guidelines came in response to a petition by Dr. Narendra Gupta, a public health expert. He argued that despite the provisions, private hospitals in Bihar, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan engaged in unethical practices, unnecessary procedures and did not inform women of side effects or take their informed consent. In doing so, they "failed in providing and regulating constitutionally mandated reproductive healthcare to women" and violated their "rights to health, bodily integrity and informed consent," the petition said.

Hysterectomies may cause long-term injuries and disabilities, requiring follow-up and post-operative care, both rarely available or affordable. In some cases, where hysterectomies are not justified yet still done, women may continue to suffer post-surgery and might need additional surgery. "If they had pelvic pain due to endometriosis, it might not be solved by hysterectomy alone," Dr. Gupta says. In other cases, patients may need medical support such as hormone replacement therapies. But these interventions are limited to private hospitals and remain unaffordable for low-income groups.

THE GIST

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Ministers and their portfolios

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah
Finance, Cabinet Affairs, DPAR, Intelligence, Information, IT & BT, Infrastructure Development and all unallocated portfolios; he is a nine-time MLA

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar
Major and Medium Irrigation, Bengaluru City Development, including BBMP, BDA, BWSSB, BMRDA, BMRCL; eight-time MLA

G. Parameshwara

Home (excluding Intelligence); six-time MLA

H.K. Patil

Law and Parliamentary Affairs, Legislation, Tourism; three-time MLA

K.H. Muniyappa

Food and Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs; first-time MLA

Ramalinga Reddy

Transport and Muzrai; eight-time MLA

M.B.Patil

Large & Medium Industries; six-time MLA

K.J.George

Energy; six-time MLA

Dinesh Gundu Rao

Health & Family Welfare; six-time MLA

H.C. Mahadevappa

Social Welfare; six-time MLA

Satish Jarkiholi

Public Works; four-time MLA

Krishna Byre Gowda

Revenue (excluding Muzrai); six-time MLA

Priyank Kharge

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj; three-time MLA

Shivanand Patil

Textiles, Sugarcane Development and Directorate of Sugar, Agricultural Marketing from Cooperation Department; six-time MLA

B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan

Housing, Wakf, and Minority Welfare; five-time MLA

Sharanabasappa Darshanapur

Small Scale Industries, Public Enterprises; five-time MLA

Eshwar Khandre

Forest, Ecology, and Environment; four-time MLA

N. Cheluvarayaswamy

Agriculture; four-time MLA

S.S. Mallikarjun

Mines and Geology, Horticulture; four-time MLA

Rahim Khan

Municipal Administration, Haj; four-time MLA

Santosh S. Lad

Labour; four-time MLA

Sharan Prakash R. Patil

Medical Education and Skill Development; four-time MLA

R.B. Thimmapur

Excise; three-time MLA

K. Venkatesh

Animal Husbandry and Sericulture; six-time MLA

Shivaraj S. Tangadagi

Backward Classes, Kannada and Culture; three-time MLA

D. Sudhakar

Planning and Statistics; four-time MLA

B. Nagendra

Youth Services, Sports, and ST Welfare; four-time MLA

K.N. Rajanna

Cooperation, excluding Agriculture Marketing; three-time MLA

B.S. Suresh

Urban Development and Town Planning (including KUWSDB and KUIDFC), excluding Bangalore City Development; second-time MLA

Laxmi R. Hebbalkar

Women and Child Development, Disabled and Senior Citizens Empowerment; second-time MLA

Mankal Vaidya

Fisheries and Ports, Inland Transport; second-time MLA

Madhu Bangarappa

Primary and Secondary Education; second-time MLA

M.C.Sudhakar

Higher Education; three-time MLA

N.S.Boseraju

Minor Irrigation, Science and Technology

CM keeps Finance and IT/BT; Shivakumar gets Major and Medium Irrigation, and Bengaluru City Development

Senior Ministers given portfolios involving implementation of 'guarantees' announced by Congress; Parameshwara allotted Home, excluding Intelligence; K.H. Muniyappa gets Food and Civil Supplies

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Two days after the Cabinet expansion, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday allocated portfolios to all Ministers and kept for himself important portfolios of Finance, Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms, Intelligence, IT/BT, Infrastructure Development, and Information.

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has been assigned major portfolios of Major and Medium Irrigation and Bengaluru City Development, including Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, and other civic agencies in Bengaluru city. Both portfolios would get a huge amount of allocation in the State Budget.

Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy greeted by Sathyavathi G., BMTC Managing Director, in Bengaluru on Monday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Senior Minister G. Parameshwara has been allotted Home, excluding Intelligence, while H.K. Patil received Law and Parliamentary Affairs, Legislation, and Tourism.

The senior Ministers have been allotted major portfolios that involve implementation of five 'guarantees' announced by the Congress ahead of the Assembly elections.

Seven-time MP and now Minister K.H. Muniyappa has been allotted Food and Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, which plays a vital role in the free distribution of 10 kg of foodgrains to each member of the BPL family every month, which is one of the guarantees.

Senior Minister K.J. George has been assigned Energy. This portfolio too assumes significance as the Congress had promised to provide 200 units of free power to all households in Karnataka.

Eight-time MLA and Minister Ramalinga Reddy received Transport, a major portfolio given the party's pre-poll promise to provide free bus travel for women across Karnataka. Mr. Reddy has also been given the Muzrai portfolio.

The Large and Medium Industries portfolio has been given to M.B. Patil; Satish Jarkiholi has bagged Public Works, and N. Cheluvarayaswamy has been allotted Agriculture.

First-time Minister Madhu Bangarappa has been given Primary and Secondary Education, while M.C. Sudhakar has been allocated Higher Education.

As expected, Laxmi Hebbalkar has been given Women and Child Development, Disabled, and Senior Citizens Empowerment.

Senior Minister H.C. Mahadevappa has been given the major portfolio of Social Welfare. The government allocates huge sums to this department for welfare of the poor and SCs and STs.

Dinesh Gundu Rao has been given Health and Family Welfare, while Priyank Kharge has been assigned Rural Development and Panchayat Raj.

Krishna Byre Gowda has been allotted Revenue, while B.Z. Zameer Ahmed has got Housing, Wakf, and Minority Welfare.

Portfolios of other Ministers are: K. Venkatesh - Animal Husbandry and Sericulture; Eshwar Khandre - Forest, Ecology, and Environment; K.N. Rajanna - Cooperation, excluding Agriculture Marketing; Sharanappa Darshanapur - Small Scale Industries; Shivanand Patil - Textiles, Sugarcane Development and Agriculture Marketing; R.B. Thimmapur - Excise; S.S. Mallikarjun - Mines, Geology, and Horticulture; Shivaraj S. Tangadagi - Backward Classes, Kannada, and Culture; Sharan Prakash Patil - Medical Education and Skill Development; Mankal Vaidya - Fisheries and Ports and Inland Transport; Rahim Khan - Municipal Administration and Haj; D. Sudhakar - Planning and Statistics; Santosh Lad - Labour; N.S. Boseraju - Minor Irrigation, and Science & Technology; B.S. Suresh (Byrathi) - Urban Development and Town Planning, including KUWSDB, KUIDFC, excluding BBMP, BDA, BWSSB, BMRDA, AND BMRCL; and B. Nagendra - Youth Services, Sports, and ST Welfare.

From Page One

10 killed in head-on collision near T.Narsipur

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has expressed shock over the accident and announced a compensation of ₹2 lakh each to the families of the deceased under the CM's Relief Fund.

Mysuru Superintendent of Police Seema Latkar said it was a head-on collision between the bus and the MPV. A five-year-old boy, identified as Puneeth, is among the three injured.

The deceased

The police gave the names of the deceased as Manjunath, 25, Poornima, 30, Pavan, 10, Karthik, 8, Sandeep, 24, Sujatha, 40, Kotresh, 45, Gayathri, 35, Shravya, 3, and Aditya, who was driving the car. The two other injured are Shashikumar and Janardhan. Some passengers of the private bus suffered minor bruises and received first-aid at the local hospital.

Need for precaution

State Sugarcane Growers' Association president Kurubur Shanthkumar, who belongs to Kurubur village where the accident took place, said accident spots on the busy stretch of the highway need to be identified and a warning signage has to be put up for motorists' safety. "Plants and weeds at turning spots sometimes block the view of the drivers, endangering the safety of passengers. Such mishaps can be prevented if the highway authorities take precaution," he said.

A purported dashcam footage of the private bus that has gone viral on social media has caught the accident wherein the car veers to its left instead of right resulting in the collision.

Minister for Social Welfare H.C. Mahadevappa, who is the MLA for T. Narsipur, visited K.R. Hospital and Cheluvamba Hospital here and enquired about the condition of the injured passengers. The Chief Minister has directed the officials concerned to ensure proper treatment for the injured.

HC adjourns hearing on petition against Lingayat quota

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Monday adjourned further hearing on a petition related to reservation for Panchamsali Lingayats as the connected issue of scrapping of 4% reservation given to Muslims under Other Backward Classes (OBC) category is pending adjudication before the Supreme Court.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B. Varale and Justice M.G.S. Kamal passed the order after taking note of further developments that have taken place on reservation issue after the court on March 23 had allowed the State government to take a decision on reservation after the government gave an undertaking that its decision would not impact the constitutionally guaranteed reservation quota in the existing category 2A of OBC reservation list.

Later, the government on March 25 scrapped the 4% reservation given to Muslims under Category 2B of the (OBC) reservation list and distributed this two communities – Veerashaiva-Lingayats and Vokkaligas – at 2% each in jobs and admissions in educational institutions. The decision of the government to scrap 4% reservation to Muslims had been challenged before the Supreme Court.

Noticing that the petition against scrapping of 4% quota for Muslims would be heard before the apex court on July 25, the High Court adjourned hearing on the petition, filed by Raghavendra D.G. of Bengaluru, awaiting the outcome of hearing before the apex court. Meanwhile, the Bench opened the interim report, submitted by the government on February 3, of the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes on reservation for Panchamasali Lingayat's demand for inclusion in Category 2A. It told the registry to provide copies of the report to the Advocate-General and the counsel for the petitioners.

'Guarantee' schemes: CM seeks report

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has directed officials of departments concerned to prepare a report on the implementation of the poll guarantees provided by the Congress.

The Chief Minister held a meeting with officials to discuss the ways and means of implementing the guarantees and issued the directions to them.

According to a communique, the Chief Minister would hold consultations with all the Ministers on methods of implementation of the guarantees on Wednesday. Later, the a formal decision would be made at the Cabinet meeting on Thursday.

Loss to State if Central schemes are not implemented: BJP

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Setting eyes on the Lok Sabha polls, the Opposition BJP leaders, including Basavaraj Bommai and Meenakshi Lekhi, on Monday said that any failure to properly implement the Central schemes would be a loss to Karnataka.

Addressing a press conference in Bengaluru, the leaders sought to send a message to the Congress that any attempt by it to politicise the Central schemes would turn out be costly for people of the State as they would miss out on the development works. Mr. Bommai said the new government should focus on effectively reaching all the schemes to people without indulging in politics.

Sorry state of affairs, says High Court on absence of toilets in 464 govt. schools

FROM THE COURT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Monday described as 'sorry state of affairs' after it found that 464 government schools had no toilet facility and 87 schools had no facility for drinking water in the State.

"Is it not a shame...", the court asked while referring to the data, which revealed that 126 schools in Kalaburagi district alone did not have toilets.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B. Varale and Justice M.G.S. Kamal made the oral observations during the hearing of a PIL petition related to the issue of out-of-school children and infrastructure to be provided in schools as per the provisions of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, and the Rules.

The Bench made the observations after noticing from the report, submitted by senior advocate and amicus curiae K.N. Phanindra, on the status of out-of-school children and on schools lacking in basic infra structure in terms of norms of the RTE law. The amicus curiae had submitted the report based on data and information provided by various departments of the State government.

As per the data, only in seven districts - Chamarajanagar, Dakshina Kannada, Hassan, Kodagu, Mysuru, Udupi, and Uttara Kannada - all the schools had toilets, and in the remaining districts, there was at least one school without the facility.

Apart from Kalaburagi district, which had the highest number of schools not having toilets, Yadgir, Vijayapura, Raichur, and Vijayanagar districts had 58, 50, 27, and 26 schools, respectively, without toilets.

Five schools in Bengaluru rural district, one in Bengaluru North, and four in Bengaluru South had no toilets, as per the data.

Kalaburagi district topped in schools (22) not having drinking water facility. However, in 15 districts, all schools had facility of drinking water.

The Bench adjourned further hearing to enable the government to respond to the report submitted by the amicus curiae.

PULSE-CHECK

Outrage: Doctors and medical students protest against the killing of female house surgeon Vandana Das. PTI

Understanding the violence faced by healthcare professionals in India

Patients or their relatives turn to violence because the healthcare system hasn't met their expectations. Studies show that female medical professionals are objectively more at risk of being on the receiving end of both physical and verbal workplace violence

Christianez Ratna Kiruba

On May 10, 2023, Dr. Vandana Das was stabbed to death in the line of duty in the Kollam district of Kerala. Amid searing outrage from the medical fraternity, the tragedy brought to the forefront the increase in workplace violence faced by doctors all over India.

Who faces what kind of violence?

It is not the first time such a thing has happened. Over the years, there have been several episodes of physical and verbal violence. Each episode has the people at large passionately arguing the issue for a few days, only for their words to fade away until the next brutal incident. Doctors also stage protests but are ultimately honour-bound to return to duty, to reprise their roles as healers. Thus, the issue remains largely unaddressed.

According to a systematic review of recent research published in the *Journal of Postgraduate Medicine* in July 2020, "In developing countries, more than 50% of doctors have faced patient-led verbal and physical abuse." Such violence has been on a rising trend in economically developing countries, and is lowest in developed ones. Research has also found that workplace violence is mostly directed at junior doctors and residents, with the incidence progressively dropping against more senior healthcare workers. The violence also happens more often in high-stake settings, such as in the emergency wing and intensive care units, or in departments with patients who have compromised mental faculties.

The perpetrators of workplace violence against physicians are family members or relatives of the patient in 82.2% of cases, as per a paper published in *PLoS ONE* in 2020. Some perpetrators become violent over concerns of the patient's condition, such as actual or perceived deterioration of their condition or doubts about the wrong treatment being administered. Some others become violent due to issues such as high payment dues and protracted waiting times. Doctors aren't responsible for either. Studies also show that female medical professionals, with lesser years of experience, are objectively more at risk of being on the receiving end of both physical and verbal workplace violence.

What effect does the violence have?

According to a 2016 paper in the *National Medical Journal of India*, 75% of the violence against doctors is verbal, including intimidation and threats. Most doctors who suffer them never report them; some notify their department seniors but are often told that these experiences are "part of the job". The *PLoS ONE* study noted that only 25% of doctors who experienced such violence complained to the police and only 10% of them believed that their complaint was addressed adequately. Most doctors don't report at all as they think that doing so will not accomplish much.

However, being on the receiving end of verbal or physical violence has an immense psychological impact. Some studies have reported symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, and depression in doctors who have faced violence from patients or their kin. In a country with a skewed doctor-patient ratio (1:854, including Ayurveda and homeopathy practitioners), doctors often decide to operate in resource-abundant settings for their own security. This in turn affects rural healthcare.

After experiencing violence, the *PLoS ONE* study found that doctors wish to stop offering emergency services, refer patients sooner to more specialists, and over-investigate symptoms and prescribe more tests. They also tend to offer less lifesaving medical and surgical interventions that a patient may require, over fear that a risky procedure may provoke violent action. This negatively affects the quality of healthcare.

Why do healthcare workers face violence?

Often, patients or their relatives turn to violence because the healthcare system hasn't met their expectations. To eliminate this 'threat', we must spend more money to strengthen the system from the grassroots level, such as reducing long waiting periods for treatment. The availability and accessibility of medicines, tests, and financial aid for those in need will greatly reduce their stress, instead of leaving them to hold their physicians responsible for it.

Healthcare professionals need to work on their communication skills and ensure meticulous documentation. At the same time, measures to mitigate workplace violence towards them must be multi-pronged and focus on institutional and policy measures.

Institutional measures like installing CCTV cameras and metal detectors at hospital entrances to deter relatives from carrying weapons are workable, but they are currently easier to realise in private settings and not at public facilities. Ensuring that there are counsellors to help patients and relatives in times of high emotional distress (together with people who can translate between languages) can eliminate any miscommunication regarding a patient's condition and treatment. In addition, a robust security system and not allowing more than a few relatives by a patient's bedside may also be important – as will enforcing the law well enough to bring perpetrators to book in a reasonable span of time. It is notable that despite demands for protective legislation by doctors, such provisions have not been made to this day.

Will a law work?

Like India, China has contested doctor-patient relationships to the point where it has drawn international attention. A February 2016 study published in the *Journal of Medical Internet Research* reported that several policies introduced by the Chinese government to strengthen their healthcare, punish illegal medical activities, and provide transparent medical-risk assessment of certain health conditions were able to partially improve public trust in healthcare workers and the healthcare system.

The finding is an indication that we can expect a similar law and that such policies in India would improve Indians' trust in the Indian healthcare system as well.

Dr. Christianez Ratna Kiruba is pursuing her MD in general medicine at Christian Medical College, Vellore.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

With Congress leader Siddaramaiah becoming the Chief Minister of Karnataka for the second time, here's a quiz on India's most important provincial leaders — its CMs

Srinivasan Ramani

QUESTION 1

A personal doctor to Mahatma Gandhi, this leader was also an educationist and became Chief Minister of one of India's most populous States. He won the Bharat Ratna in 1961. Name him.

QUESTION 2

Orphaned at the tender age of 11, this person, as a young man dropped out of school and made a living out of meshing coir to make ropes. He was also a key participant in the Punnapra-Vayalar uprising in the late 1940s. He went on to become one of India's oldest Chief Ministers. Name him.

QUESTION 3

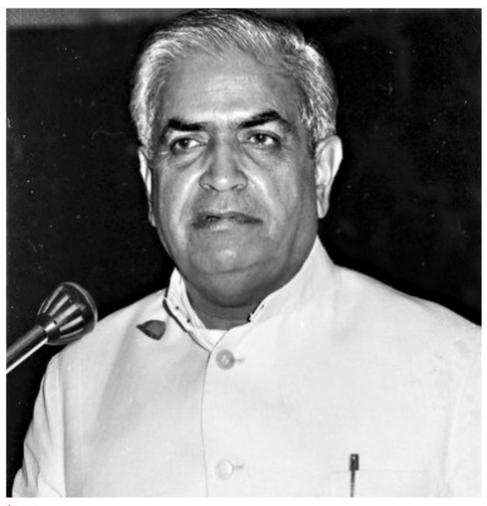
This leader became Chief Minister of his State merely eight months after his party was formed in the year 1982. He went on to hold the post for three terms. Name him.

QUESTION 4

A lawyer with a doctorate in law, this person defended the accused, including many trade unionists, in the Meerut Conspiracy Case and also the military officers in the Indian National Army trials in 1945-46. A Kashmiri pandit by origin, this person went on to become the third Chief Minister of one of India's largest States by land area. Name him.

QUESTION 5

A member of the Constituent Assembly, he is widely credited for his work as an activist and passionate advocacy as a provincial leader for the creation of a new Union Territory with a legislative assembly in 1963. It was later made into a State (of which he became the first Chief Minister). Name him.



Visual question:
Name this person who served as the Chief Minister of Rajasthan for the longest period (more than 17 years). HINDU ARCHIVES

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. Who led the first Mt. Everest expedition. **Ans: James Hunt (later Baron Hunt)**
2. The profession of Hillary. **Ans: He was a beekeeper**
3. Who were Tom Bourdillon and Charles Evans. **Ans: They were tasked with the first attempt on May 26 and crested the south summit before turning back 330 feet short of the top**
4. The explanation Hillary gave when asked why there is no photo of his own on the summit. **Ans: He said that Tenzing did not know how to operate a camera and it was not the place to teach him!**
5. The offerings left on top of the summit. **Ans: Tenzing made an offering of food for the mountain; Hillary left a crucifix given by the team leader**
6. This was Hillary's greeting to teammate George Lowe. **Ans: "Well, George, we knocked the bastard off!"**
7. Tenzing's autobiography. **Ans: *Tiger of the Snows***
8. This historic event was happening when news broke about the success on Everest. **Ans: The Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II**
Visual: Tenzing-Hillary airport is located here. **Ans: Lukla**
Early Birds: Himanshu Verma| M. Suresh Kumar

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Sir, K. A. S. Gupta, Attakur, Kurnool district, asks whether 'family' can be used to mean 'wife'. He says that a lot of people in India use 'family' in that sense."

"I am aware that it is used in that sense by a lot of people in our country, It doesn't mean 'wife' in English, but it includes 'wife'."

"Sir, some readers feel that we should use 'expecting' rather than 'pregnant' as the latter is considered 'indecent'. Also some would like to know whether the word 'carrying' in the sense of 'expecting' is acceptable. For example 'she is carrying'."

"There was a time when the word 'pregnant' was considered indelicate, but not now. It wasn't considered proper to use it, especially in conversation. Some words pertaining to the body and its functions were avoided in conversation by the Victorians. They fought shy of using even words like 'leg', 'naked', etc. Some of them even covered the legs of tables! They talked about the 'limbs' of a 'piano' rather than the 'legs' of a piano. They would say 'She ran in all her innocence and nothing else' instead of 'She ran naked'. The modern tendency is to call a spade a spade, perhaps, a bloody spade. Now there is a forthrightness in the use of language. Some are of the view that now 'pregnant' is more commonly used by native speakers than 'expecting'.

Now about the word 'carrying'. 'Carrying' in the sense of 'pregnant' is considered rather vulgar and should be avoided. That is, a sentence like 'Sita is carrying' is not acceptable. However, 'carrying' is acceptable if it is followed by an object.

When she was carrying Raju, she met with an accident.

I hope I have made myself clear."

"Yes. sir. Sir, Mr. K. S. Sreenivas, Mr. V. V. P. Sarathy and others, 212, Main Road, Coimbatore, want to know whether 'condolence' as a noun is used in the singular or plural."

"Usually it is the plural that is used.

Please accept our sincere condolences.

'Condolence' is 'the expression of sympathy with another in grief'."

"Sir, how is it used as a 'verb'?"

"*He condoled with her on her sister's death.*

She condoled with him on the death of his father."

"Sir, can I say 'He condoled the death of her son'?"

"To condole the death of etc. was used from the 16th to the 19th century. Later this construction became unacceptable. It has become acceptable again. The Supplement to Oxford English Dictionary (A-G) says: 'Delete obsolete and add later Indian example: 1969: 'Students passed a resolution condoling the death of Mr. Prakash Podder'. The old use has been revived perhaps because of its extensive use in India. Well, let's stop here."

"Thank you, sir."

Published in The Hindu on February 23, 1988

Word of the day

Raze:
tear down so as to make flat with the ground

Synonyms: pull down, level, take down, dismantle, tear down

Usage: *The building was razed.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/razepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ɹeɪz/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

GSLV rocket carrying navigation satellite NVS-01 lifts off from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre on Monday. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

ISRO's GSLV rocket places navigation satellite into orbit

Sangeetha Kandavel
CHENNAI

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Monday successfully placed the NVS-01 navigation satellite, weighing about 2232 kg, into Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit.

The Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV), which placed the satellite, lifted off with a thunderous roar precisely at 10.42 a.m. from the second launch pad at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre SHAR, Sriharikota.

"After a flight of about 19 minutes, the NVS-01 satellite was injected precisely into a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit. Subsequent orbit-raising manoeuvres will take NVS-01 into the intended Geosynchronous orbit," ISRO said.

Talking from the control room ISRO Chairman S. Somanath congratulated the team responsible and said GSLV has placed the satellite in the precise orbit. He said, "this mission happened after the debacle during the F10 mission where there was an issue in the cryogenic stage. I'm very happy about the corrections and modifications that we have done and the lessons that we learnt to make our cryogenic stage more reliable."

He also mentioned that NVS-01 is the first in the series of five satellites.

According to details provided by ISRO, the GSLV-F12 is the 15th flight of India's GSLV and the 9th flight with indigenous cyro stage. This is the 6th operational flight of GSLV with an indigenous cryogenic stage.

Family that made *Sengol* felicitated at PM's residence

Vummidi Bangaru Chetty and Sons had designed and manufactured the *Sengol* in 1947 that was handed to Jawaharlal Nehru as a symbol of transfer of power from the British

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Members of the Vummidi Bangaru Chetty family that had designed and made *Sengol*, the historical sceptre installed in the new Parliament House, were felicitated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday.

Sharing his experience in Chennai on Monday, Vummidi Anil Kumar of Vummidi Dwarkanath Jewellers said 10 members of the family, including 97-year-old Vummidi Ethiraj, participated in the felicitation ceremony at the Prime Minister's residence in New Delhi.

"My uncle, Mr. Ethiraj, was honoured along with several Adheenam priests. It was a recognition of historic artefact and the family's role in designing and manufacturing it," he said.

Vummidi Ethiraj, 97 (in the wheelchair), and his family members at the residence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

It was at Vummidi Bangaru Chetty and Sons referred as 'Corner shop' in Parry's Corner where the *Sengol* was designed and manufactured in 1947. Though several Vummidi Bangaru Jewellers stores have branched out over the years, the original premises, which was established in 1900s, remains and operates as Vummidi Dwarkanath Jewellers in Parry's Corner, he said. The *Sengol* holds historical significance as it was presented to the first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru on the midnight of August 14, 1947, marking the transfer of power to India.

'India will have a huge geriatric-care market'

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

India will have over 300 million elderly people by the time the country celebrates its 100th year of independence in 2047, said Kris Gopalakrishnan, former CEO of Infosys and a venture capitalist who just floated Bridge Health, a proactive healthcare start-up.

According to Mr. Gopalakrishnan, the country was yet to have a social security network, especially when in another couple of decades it is expected to become an ageing economy like Japan and China.

Kris Gopalakrishnan, former CEO, Infosys

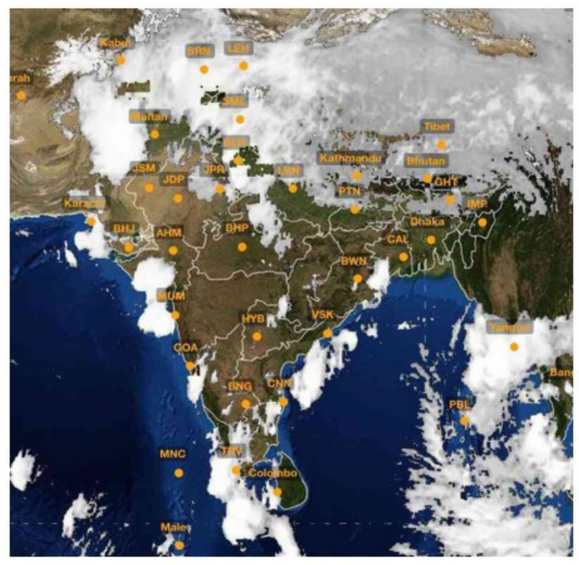
"Healthcare has to move from tertiary or secondary to primary level. Healthcare accounts for 17% of the U.S. GDP and in India, it is an appalling 2% still," he stated.

Bridge Health's primary mission was to facilitate a crucial transition in India's healthcare segment from curative to proactive care, Mr. Gopalakrishan added.

Bridge Health has entered into a strategic alliance with Primus Senior Living, and the combine is expected to launch a managed eldercare service, One Care, that would comprise an elder care assessment involving evaluation of functional abilities, cognition and mental health and physical condition. Post the assessment, Bridge Health will prepare customised prevention and treatment plans for senior citizens.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over south interior Karnataka, Kerala and Mahe. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Gujarat, Delhi, Jharkhand, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, coastal Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	36.6	25.2	Kozhikode	—	36.4	27.7
Ahmedabad	55	36.1	21.0	Kurnool	—	42.5	29.7
Aizawl	—	32.4	19.4	Lucknow	—	37.3	23.7
Allahabad	—	40.4	23.6	Madurai	—	39.0	26.6
Bengaluru	—	33.3	23.3	Mangaluru	—	35.6	26.5
Bhopal	—	—	—	Mumbai	—	34.4	28.2
Bhubaneswar	—	38.8	27.1	Mysuru	—	35.8	—
Chandigarh	—	35.8	23.8	New Delhi	7.2	35.0	21.8
Chennai	—	39.5	28.8	Patna	—	40.1	27.7
Coimbatore	—	36.4	25.4	Port Blair	—	32.5	27.6
Dehradun	—	33.1	22.4	Puducherry	—	39.0	29.2
Gangtok	0.7	24.8	14.7	Pune	—	41.1	23.2
Goa	—	36.4	27.0	Raipur	—	40.2	28.7
Guwahati	—	36.3	22.4	Ranchi	—	37.0	24.4
Hubballi	—	38.0	25.0	Shillong	—	25.4	15.0
Hyderabad	—	39.6	28.5	Shimla	—	21.6	13.7
Imphal	—	33.2	19.7	Srinagar	—	25.4	12.0
Jaipur	—	32.0	23.0	Thiruvananthapuram	—	34.4	26.7
Kochi	—	33.0	27.4	Tiruchi	—	39.3	27.6
Kohima	—	25.0	15.5	Vijayawada	—	38.4	27.0
Kolkata	—	37.2	26.5	Visakhapatnam	0.6	35.3	27.4

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	6	—	8	31	216	
Bengaluru	26	11	100	57	71	
Chennai	3	62	101	88	80	
Delhi	16	163	21	78	170	
Hyderabad	4	21	34	183	—	
Kolkata	8	15	24	58	112	
Lucknow	7	42	38	61	122	
Mumbai	4	—	122	85	85	
Pune	116	169	114	69	61	
Visakhapatnam	23	59	30	100	184	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Amritsar, Punjab recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 259 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Damoh, Madhya Pradesh recorded a healthy AQI score of 19

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

3 die after inhaling toxic gases

The Hindu Bureau
RAYACHOTI

Three workers died after inhaling toxic gases while cleaning an underground petrol tank at a fuel outlet in Rayachoti town in Andhra Pradesh on Sunday. According to the police, Siva, 20, Anand, 40, and Ravi, 34, reached the petrol pump to clean a tank, which remained unused for months. After opening the lid, they went down the ladder one after the other and collapsed inside.

HUBLI ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned Govt. of Karnataka undertaking)
Navanagar, P.B.Road, Hubballi–25 Website: www.hescom.karnataka.gov.in
Corporate Identity Number (CIN) : U31401KA2002SGC030437

No : HESCOM/DF/CA/DCA/AO(RA)/23-24/CYS-913 **Date:26-05-2023**

NOTIFICATION

Sub: Regarding Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum (CGRF)

In exercise of powers conferred on the Commission by Section 181 read with Sub-section (5), (6) and (7) of section 42 of the Electricity Act 2003 (Act No. 360 of 2003) and all powers enabling in this behalf, the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission had issued KERC (Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum and Ombudsman (Second Amendment) Regulations 2013.

As per Clause No. 3.1 of the said Regulations, every Distribution Licensee shall establish in every Revenue District of its jurisdiction a Consumer Grievance Redressal Forum (CGRF). To make it convenient for consumers of Dharwad, Uttar Kannada, Haveri, Belagavi, Vijayapur, Bagalkot and Gadag Districts of HECOM jurisdiction, CGRF consisting of chairperson and members as detailed below are created.

Sl. No.	Name of Revenue District	Chairperson Nominated by HESCOM	Member Nominated by HESCOM	Member Nominated by Commission	Forum's Head Quarters
1	Dharwad	Smt. S.S. Jangin, Superintending Engineer (El), O & M Circle, HESCOM, Hubballi Cell: 9448370227. Email ID - seehbl.hescom@gmail.com	Sri. Revanasiddappa Gavannavar Deputy Controller of Accounts, O & M Circle, HESCOM, Hubballi Cell: 9448488758. Email ID – dcahbl.hescom@gmail.com	Smt. Savitri B Anami, Advocate, Flat No. A2, KLE Guest House, Siddeshwara Nagara, Unakal Cross, Hubballi-580031 Mob No. 9902470932	O /o Superintending Engineer (El) O & M Circle, HESCOM, Shivagangaa Layout, Keshwapur, Hubballi- 580023
2	Uttara Kannada	Sri. D.B.Kamat, Superintending Engineer (El), O & M Circle, HESCOM, Sirsi. Cell: 9448491813. Email ID - seesrs.hescom@gmail.com	Sri. Sunilkumar V, Executive Engineer, O & M Division, HESCOM, Sirsi. Cell:9448141871. Email ID – eesirsi.hescom@gmail.com	Sri. Lokesh Laxminarayan Hegde, Saakina: Bhandiwala, Uppina Pattana Post, Kumta Taluk, Uttara Kannada District – 581362 Mob No. 9141148237	O /o Superintending Engineer (El) O & M Circle, HESCOM, Ayyappa Nagar, Sirsi-581 402 (Dist : Uttara Kannada)
3	Haveri	Sri. Nagappa . S. H Superintending Engineer (El), O & M Circle, HESCOM, Haveri. Cell: 9448132532. Email ID - seehvr.hescom@gmail.com	Tippeshi K Deputy Controller of Accounts, O & M Circle, HESCOM, Haveri. Cell: 9448132625. Email ID – dcahvr.hescom@gmail.com	Sri. G. S. Magavi, Opp. Chambers, Magavi Petrol Bunk, Haveri-581110. Mob No. 9448132402	O /o Superintending Engineer (El) O & M Circle, HESCOM, Reg No. 85B, Near B.E.O / Haveri Urban Development Authority Office, Hanchinal Layout, P. B. Road, Haveri - 581110
4	Belgavi	Sri. V S Ramesh Superintending Engineer (El), O & M Zone, HESCOM, Hubballi Cell: 9449877103. Email ID - ceehbl.hescom@gmail.com	Sri. Praveenkumar. K Chikade, Executive Engineer, O & M Rural Division, HESCOM, Belgavi. Cell: 9448370243. Email ID – eerbgm.hescom@gmail.com	Sri. C.T. Majagi, Pl. No.1011, CTS No. 5646, Sect No. VI, M.M.Extn, Shrinagar, Belagavi-17 Mob No. 9448437074	O /o Superintending Engineer (El) O & M Circle, HESCOM, Neharu Nagar, Belagavi-590010
5	Bagalkot	Sri Siddappa Binjageri Superintending Engineer (El), O & M Circle, HESCOM, Vijayapura Cell: 9448370248. Email ID - seebgkt.hescom@gmail.com	Sri Narayan Kallimani, Executive Engineer, O & M Division, HESCOM, Bagalkot. Cell: 9448370258.	Sri. C. V. Shivapuji, 15th Cross, Vidyagiri, Near Kenchamma Temple, Bagalkot. Mob No. 9845644111	O /o Superintending Engineer (El) O & M Circle, HESCOM, Sector No -6, Road No-6 Near Patrika Bhavan, Navanagar, Bagalkot-587 103
6	Vijayapura	Sri Siddappa Binjageri Superintending Engineer (El), O & M Circle, HESCOM, Vijayapura Cell: 9448370248. Email ID - seebjp.hescom@gmail.com	Sri. Mahantesh M Chenngond Executive Engineer, O & M Rural Division, HESCOM, Vijayapura Cell: 9448370248. Email ID – eevjp.hescom@gmail.com	Sri Ravindra S Bijjaragi, 31/E, Gani Towers, Opp B.L.D.E.A's Hospital, Ashram Road, Vijayapur-586103. Mob No. 9448125231	O /o Superintending Engineer (El) O & M Circle, HESCOM, Beside BDA Office, Basavana Bagewadi Road, Vijayapura-586 109.
7	Gadag	Smt. S.S. Jangin, Superintending Engineer (El), O & M Circle, HESCOM, Hubballi Cell: 9448370227. Email ID - seehbl.hescom@gmail.com	Sri. Revanasiddappa Gavannavar Deputy Controller of Accounts, O & M Circle, HESCOM, Hubballi Cell: 9448488758. Email ID – dcahbl.hescom@gmail.com	Sri. S.R. Rangrej, Susheela Nivas, Health Camp, Betageri. Mob No. 9886712128	O /o Executive Engineer (El) O & M Division, HESCOM, Mulagunda naka, Gadag -582 103.

In the event of a complaint not being redressed satisfactorily by the concerned field officer, complainant may submit his grievance in Form 'A' (available in CGRFOffices) within THREE (3) months from the date on which his grievance should have been redressed.

Grievances falling within the purview of any of the following provisions of the Act are excluded from the jurisdiction of the Forum.

1. Unauthorised use of electricity as provided under section 126 of the Act.
2. Offences and penalties as provided under section 135 to 139 of the Act.
3. Accident in the distribution, supply or use of electricity as provided under section 161 of the Act.

Any complainant aggrieved by the non-redressal of his grievances by the Forum may himself or through his representative make a representation to the Ombudsman within Thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the order of the Forum. The address of the Electricity Ombudsman is as noted below:

Electricity Ombudsman, No. 16 C-1, Miller Tank Bed Area, (Behind Jain Hospital) Vasanthnagar, Bengaluru-560052.

Sd/- Controller,
Corporate Office, HESCOM, Hubballi

DIPR/DWD/32/2023-24/Deshpandepublicity

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY G20

E-Tender Notice No. 11/2023 Dated : 25-05-2023
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders through IREPS only for supply of following item:

Description in brief : Supply and fitment of Crane mounted truck, power take-off unit and Fabrication of Cargo Body. **(Tender No. L8235303B) (Qty : 01 No.)**

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 10:30 Hrs. on 19-06-2023**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Materials Manager
PUB/124/AAS/PRB/SWR/2023-24 **Bengaluru**
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the public that we have been engaged by our client to investigate the title of converted land parcel owned by Prestige Realty Ventures, a partnership firm registered under the provisions of the Partnership Act, 1932 and having registration No. 771/08-09 and its registered office at Prestige Falcon Tower, No. 19, Brunton Road, Bengaluru-560025. Details of the said land parcel is provided in the schedule below and shall hereinafter be referred to as the "**Schedule Property**".

If any person has any claim, right, title, interest, pending litigation or demand of any nature in relation to the Schedule Property or any part thereof or, has executed any transactions or documents (whether registered or unregistered) with the current owners or predecessors in title of the Schedule Property, having the effect of creating an encumbrance thereon, are called upon to submit their statements, objections or claims in writing, along with documentary evidence in support thereof, with the undersigned, within 7 (seven) days from the date of publication of this notice. If no objections are received, we would conclusively presume that no person has any right, title, interest, claim, demand, charge or encumbrance whatsoever existing on the Schedule Property or any part thereof and we will issue our opinion confirming that the owners have title in respect of the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of portion of commercially converted land measuring 8 Acres 22 Guntas (equivalent to 34,600.33 square meters or 3,72,438 square feet) in the form of undivided share, within Prestige Tech Cloud developed on land bearing Survey No. 13 measuring 33 Acres situated at Navarathna Agrahara Village, Jala Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, duly converted for non-agricultural commercial purpose vide (i) Official Memorandum dated May 17, 1989 bearing No. B.DIS.ALN.SR(N) 51/89-90 issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District; (ii) Official Memorandum dated May 17, 1989 bearing No. B.DIS.ALN.SR(N) 52/89-90 issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District; and (iii) Official Memorandum dated May 17, 1989 bearing No. B.DIS.ALN.SR(N) 53/89-90 issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, presently bearing E-Swattu Khata No.15020020090040102 in the records of Doddajala Grama Panchayath, Bangalore North Taluk. The said Prestige Tech Cloud is bounded by:

East : Village Boundary, presently Road;
West : Remaining portion of property in Survey No. 13;
North : Remaining portion of property in Survey No. 13; and
South : Village Boundary.

Date: 30-05-2023
Place: Bengaluru

Gerald Manoharan, Partner
JSA, Advocates
Level 3, Prestige Obelisk, 3, Kasturba Road
Bengaluru – 560 001.
Ph. 080-4350 3600/080-4350 3610
Email ID: gerald@jsalaw.com

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU
Probate Civil Petition No.8 of 2022
In the matter of the Will of Mr. SHASHIKANT DESAI: Deceased

Mrs. Savica Barua, (now known as Savica Sen), Hindu, aged about 55 years, W/o Mr. Madhusudan Sen, Presently R/at : 'A-2', Regency Park Apartments, No.24, Hall Road, Richards Town, Bengaluru - 560005.
...Petitioner
-vs-
Nil **...Respondent**

Whereas the petitioners above named have made a **petition under Part IX section (273, and 276) of the Indian Succession Act 1925, for grant of probate of the Will dated 14th February 2020** said to have been executed by the deceased **Mr. Shashikant Desai, late of Flat No. A-2, Regency Park Apartments, No.24 Hall Road, Richards Town, Bengaluru - 560005.**

Be it known that no caveat has been entered and that the said petition is **posted for hearing on the 21-06-2023** and all persons claiming to have any interest in the Estate of the Deceased may come and see the proceedings before the grant of Probate.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Court, this the **30th day of March 2023.**

By Order of the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka, Assistant Registrar, Bengaluru

Counsel for the Petitioner
M/s. Da Costa & Da Costa &
Ms. Ann Mary Green, Unit No.403, 4th Floor, Prestige Meridian-2, Nos. 30 & 31 M.G.Road, Bangalore - 560001.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU
Probate Civil Petition No.5 of 2023
In the matter of the Will of MR. HUGO MARIO GASTAO DE SOUZA, also known as HUGO M. DE SOUZA and HUGO MARIO DE SOUZA : Deceased :

1) Ms. Maria Alice de Souza, Christian, aged about 76 years, Daughter of the above named deceased, presently residing at No.7/2 (new No.19) Charles Campbell Road, 1st Cross, Cox Town, Bangalore - 560005.
2) Mr. George Elmer Vasco de Souza, aged about 71 years, son of the above named deceased, presently residing at Badem, Salvador-do-Mundo, Bardez, Goa.
...Petitioners
-vs-
Nil **...Respondent**

Whereas the petitioners above named have made a petition under Part IX section (273, and 276) of the Indian Succession Act 1925, for grant of probate of the Will dated 6th November 2013 said to have been executed by the deceased Mr. Hugo Mario Gastao de Souza, also known as Hugo M. de Souza, and Hugo Mario de Souza, late of No.7/2, (New No.19) Charles Campbell Road, Cox Town, Bangalore - 560005.

Be it known that no caveat has been entered and that the said petition is posted for hearing on the **21-06-2023** and all persons claiming to have any interest in the Estate of the Deceased may come and see the proceedings before the grant of Probate.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Court, this the **20th day of April 2023.**

By Order of the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka, Assistant Registrar, Bengaluru

Counsel for the Petitioner
M/s. Da Costa & Da Costa &
Ms. Ann Mary Green, Unit No.403, 4th Floor, Prestige Meridian-2, Nos. 30 & 31 M.G.Road, Bangalore - 560001.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU
Probate Civil Petition No.7 of 2023
In the matter of the Will of Mr. ANTHONY SIMON ALVARES : Deceased :

1) Mrs. Shefali Alvares, Christian, W/o the above named deceased, Mr. Anthony Simon Alvares, aged about 47 years, presently R/at 121 Brady Road, Bentleigh East Victoria, 3165 Australia, Presently at Bangalore.
2) Ms. Helen Marie Alvares, Christian, Sister of above named deceased, Mr.Anthony Simon Alvares, aged about 57 years, presently R/at River Roost Resorts, 1-262-16, Sabarabail, Mudushedde, Mangaluru - 575028.
...Petitioners
-vs-
Nil **...Respondent**

Whereas the petitioners above named have made a petition under Part IX section (273, and 276) of the Indian Succession Act 1925, for grant of probate of the Will dated 29th April 2003 said to have been executed by the deceased Mr. Anthony Simon Alvares, late of Wheel House, Coelho Lane, Falnir, Mangalore.

Be it known that no caveat has been entered and that the said petition is posted for hearing on the **21-06-2023** and all persons claiming to have any interest in the Estate of the Deceased may come and see the proceedings before the grant of Probate.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Court, this the **20th day of April 2023.**

By Order of the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka, Assistant Registrar, Bengaluru

Counsel for the Petitioner
M/s. Da Costa & Da Costa &
Ms. Ann Mary Green, Unit No.403, 4th Floor, Prestige Meridian-2, Nos. 30 & 31 M.G.Road, Bangalore - 560001.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU
Probate Civil Petition No.16 of 2022
In the matter of the Authenticated Copy of the Last Will & Testament of Mrs. GEETHA THOMAS : Deceased :

Mr. Sunil Thomas, S/o late Mrs. Geetha Thomas, aged about 41 years, Christian, Resident of Unit 16, 4 Beale Street, Liverpool, NSW 2170, Australia, represented by his duly constituted attorney Mr. Ravi John Thumboo Chetty, as power of attorney marked **"E".**
...Petitioner
-vs-
Nil **...Respondent**

Whereas the Petitioner above named have made a petition under Part IX section (228, 270, 271, 273, 274, 275, 278 and 300) of the Indian Succession Act 1925, for ancillary grant of Letters of Administration with the probated authenticated copy of the Last will and Testament dated 8th January, 2019 in respect of the Indian estate of Mrs. Geetha Thomas late of Unit 16, 4 Beale Street, Liverpool 2170, NSW, Australia.

Be it known that no caveat has been entered and that the said petition is posted for hearing on the **21-06-2023** and all persons claiming to have any interest in the Estate of the Deceased may come and see the proceedings before the grant of Probate.

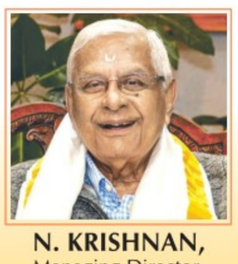
Given under my hand and the seal of this Court, this the **18th day of April 2023.**

By Order of the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka, Assistant Registrar, Bengaluru

Counsel for the Petitioner
M/s. Da Costa & Da Costa &
Ms. Ann Mary Green, Unit No.403, 4th Floor, Prestige Meridian-2, Nos. 30 & 31 M.G.Road, Bangalore - 560001.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

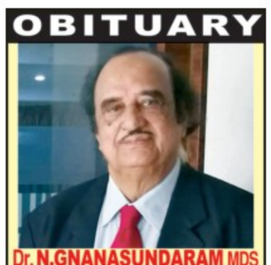
DEATH



N. KRISHNAN,
Managing Director,
TVS Suzuki (Retired)
Passed away, May 28th, 2023 in San Jose, California
Grieving Family
Wife - Saraswathi Krishnan
Prakash and Sudha Krishnan
Meena and Raju Balakrishnan
Condolences
krishnan1931@gmail.com

DEATH

OBITUARY



Dr. N.GNANASUNDARAM MDS
Retd. Principal
TN GOVT DENTAL COLLEGE
12/02/1940-29/05/2023
Son Dr. **Ramkumar**
Son Dr. **Muthukumar**
Wife **G. Kumudavalli**
Daughter in law **Bhagyalakshmi**
Grand daughter **R.Arati Poorana**
Rituals & Funeral
31/05/2023 - 9am onwards
9043336914 - 9894146109

Symbols, substance

Religious rituals at the opening of new Parliament building defied propriety

The inauguration of the new Parliament building by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday was true to a style he has mastered: using every occasion to advance a form of politics that many of his critics find problematic. Mr. Modi presented the aesthetics of the new building as a representation of India's myriad diversity, its rich cultural heritage and its soaring aspirations. A multi-religious prayer was a part of the ceremony, but there was no mistaking that Hindu ritualism overshadowed all else. By weaving an artful tale around a *Sengol*, a sceptre gifted to the first Prime Minister of India by a Shaivite sect of Tamil Nadu, the current dispensation has sought to reimagine the founding principles of India's republican sovereignty. A *Sengol* symbolised divine right and is now installed in the Assembly of people's representatives. The symbolism strengthens Tamil Nadu's connection to the political centre of India, and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is trying to make political gains from it. It is also notable that the day of the inauguration was also the birth anniversary of V.D. Savarkar, the founding father of Hindutva. A quest to transition Indian republicanism to a new iteration was apparent in the style and substance of the ceremony.

The new building also turns the spotlight, tangentially, on an approaching challenge of representation that will be upon India within the next decade. A nationwide delimitation will reallocate representation as per the current population, leading to a significant, relative reduction of the voice of linguistic minorities of the southern States in Parliament. The size of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha will likely expand in order to avoid an absolute reduction of representation of States that have stabilised their populations. But that may not be enough to assuage the feeling of disenfranchisement that is already palpable among many regions due to the geographical fragmentation of Indian politics. The BJP wins its parliamentary majority from its strongholds while many States remain outside its sphere of influence. On 38% of popular votes, the BJP has 55% of Lok Sabha seats currently. This imbalance will be aggravated after the delimitation. The BJP's outreach to regions and communities outside of its current catchment areas is to be welcomed. But the Centre and the BJP will have to show more seriousness, sensitivity and maturity to deal with the regional imbalances of India. For this, they will need to take recourse to more than just symbolism.

Faster, stronger

India must use its supercomputers beyond weather forecasts

Later this year, India will have a new 'supercomputer' or, more correctly, an upgraded 'high performance computing (HPC)' system that will arguably be its fastest. This system is to be made and installed by the French corporation, Atos – an information technology service and consulting company. The Narendra Modi government signed a deal in December 2018 with France to procure high-performance computers worth ₹4,500 crore by 2025. These HPC systems will run at two institutions, the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, and the National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting, Noida, that currently host two of India's most powerful such machines, Mihir and Pratyush. Like their predecessors, the Atos machines will be used primarily to run sophisticated weather models that, for some years now, are being used to prepare a range of forecasts, from long-term monsoon to fortnightly as well as daily weather changes. Extremely powerful machines are needed for this purpose as accurate forecasts are premised on being able to simulate the state of the atmosphere and oceans. 'Supercomputers' is a buzzword and term that is in constant flux. Supercomputers of two decades ago are today's student laptops and gaming consoles.

While many challenging research questions, apart from weather modelling, are extremely dependent on computing – protein biology, aerospace-modelling applications, and now AI-linked applications – the possession of HPCs is also used as a medallion by countries wanting to signify their technological prowess. The Top500 project has for over two decades maintained a list of the top 500 most powerful HPC machines and this is updated twice a year, with countries prominently advertising the presence of their systems if they make it to the list. Currently, a machine housed at Pune's Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC) is the only Indian machine in the top 100 with a top speed of 13 petaflops. Floating point operations per second (FLOPS) are an indicator of computer processing abilities and 1 petaflop is a 1,000 trillion flops. The to-be installed French machines are expected to be 18 petaflops and India already has a handful of machines at multiple research institutions in the petaflop range. The possession of powerful supercomputers is certainly a reassurance that Indian scientists, wanting to solve intractable problems, can always tap these behemoths, but whether the use of these machines has translated into significant breakthroughs in fundamental science or engineering commercial products is another matter. Much like India has improved its short-term weather forecasts and made cyclone forecasts more accurate on the back of such machines, there should be greater accounting of their worth in other fields, rather than be content with epithets of speed and power.

The indelible imprint of the Fifth Estate, in Karnataka

M. Sridhar Acharyulu

is a former Central Information Commissioner, and now Dean, School of Law, Mahindra University, Hyderabad

While political parties fought bitter battles in Karnataka in the run-up to the Assembly election, civil society in the State, without any alliance or imbibing any particular political hue, made an indelible mark in the history of elections in India. Civil society, with 102 associations or organisations, came together and fought against the strategies of the political parties. They struggled for around six months before the elections under the umbrella "*Eddelu* Karnataka (Wake-up, Karnataka)", and the result is there for the nation to see.

They did not argue with the public, or campaign against any party, but just asked the people to wake up. They listened to the people intensely. They put forth the real issues confronting them. They fought against the powerful politics of bigotry orchestrated by communal forces that were stoking the issues around the hijab, *azaan*, and 'love jihad' to name a few. Their intervention opened new vistas for positive politics, secularism and peace. They did not talk about "Operation Kamala", i.e. the dubious defection drama practised by one major party, followed by judicial interventions that involve a legal interplay of words and bizarre interpretations in court halls with a selective use of constitutional means to whitewash criminal acts. Indeed, political manipulation has become everyday play. One such political party, the Janata Dal (Secular), failed in a big way in the elections. The people of Karnataka rejected it. Dishonest game players were defeated.

As a campaign of awareness

A professor at Hyderabad University, and human rights activist G. Haragopal, said that *"Eddelu* Karnataka" had the singularity of a movement to wake people up from political inactivity during election time. He noted that in Karnataka, civil society comprised writers, poets, artists, and cinema makers who moved in unison during these polls. Revolutionary writers such as Basavanna and Devanur Mahadeva had influenced the people, campaigned for fraternity and fought against divisive forces. The campaign was intended to make people identify communal elements and parties.

Prof. Haragopal said that the campaign generated live discussion and debate within civil society during elections and won people over.

The recent elections in Karnataka should be considered a model for the power of people's democracy, as civil society made the difference

More than 100 people from various social groups worked together for six months, held 250 workshops, met people in 103 constituencies, formed 192 groups, and over 2,000 workers campaigned among voters. They collected data from 41,000 families, distributed 650 posters, and produced 80 videos. Around 100 meetings with journalists were organised, and more than 50 *dharnas* involving farmers, labour, Dalits, women, students and tribals were organised. The campaign quietly spread to 151 taluk areas in 31 districts. It was a distinctive campaign to raise voter consciousness against the communal agenda, divisive politics and hate campaigns. Their commitment could not be questioned. One lakh pamphlets were printed and distributed. They were not political leaders but simple workers. These social groups did not campaign against any political party; instead, they worked by asking the people to vote in the polls, promoting friendship and opposing hate. They awakened civil society and supported democracy, the Constitution, and the unity of the people.

Generally, all the known political parties put up some candidates in order to ensure that the votes of particular candidates are split. But this time, civil society groups met 49 candidates, negotiated over several weeks and successfully convinced them to withdraw from the contest so that the votes did not split so as to defeat candidates with a communal agenda. This was no mean achievement. They knew the strategies of splitting votes and 'purchasing' elected Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs). The campaign has grasped election politics and mastered the art of getting to know the public pulse in the elections.

Defections, overnight governments

The people of Karnataka have been the victims of defection dramas, as seen in elections in recent years in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Manipur. In an article, "Maharashtra Political Crisis: The Limits of Supreme Court's Expiations" (May 15, 2023), the writer has called defection as 'political skulduggery'. These Chanakya-like manoeuvres have resulted in the dislodging of the Uddhav Thackeray-led coalition government and the overnight formation of a new government led by Eknath Shinde that consists of a coalition of a faction of the Shiv Sena and the Bharatiya Janata Party. The drama shifted to the High Court and the Supreme Court of India too. The top court observed that it could not ordinarily adjudicate petitions for disqualification under the Tenth Schedule. Relying on *Kihoto Hollohan vs Zachillhu And Others* and *Rajendra Singh Rana And Ors. vs Swami Prasad Maurya And Ors.*, the top court held that the disqualification of MLAs was up to the Speaker of the House, who must decide on the disqualification proceedings within a reasonable period.

The top court has also held that the Maharashtra Governor "did not act in accordance with the law in calling for a floor test" and that "the communications relied upon by the Governor did not indicate that the 'rebel' MLAs intended to withdraw their support to the Chief Minister". This should have been a severe admonishment of the government at the Centre and the political party concerned. But nobody is bothered. The top court added that the Constitution does not "empower the Governor to enter the political arena and play a role (however minute) in inter-party or intra-party disputes". The system of the Constitution has not thought about the rule of law.

Model role in civil society

The recent elections in Karnataka should be considered a model for the power of people's democracy amid the thickets of criminal, religious and communal manipulations and in the backdrop of institutions being disembowelled. It sets an example for voters to fight against spin doctors and manipulative political pundits. Whenever defections are engineered to defeat definite electoral victors and manipulate judicial verdicts, the people should enhance the strength of the democratic power, just like the people of Karnataka, to defeat such political shenanigans.

Parliament, the executive and the judiciary (the three Estates) and the Fourth Estate appear to be in the iron grip of the regime in power. The 'state' is in control of money power. There is only one resort for the people – wielding the power of civil society. Some people call it the Fifth Estate. This is because we see that even the judiciary has largely failed to stop the chicanery and the tyranny of the mis-rulers. The thinking people should take the constitutional system into their hands and take charge of the situation, just like the people of Karnataka did. Compliments to Karnataka.

The Erdoğan victory, a triumph for Ottoman glory

Talmiz Ahmad

is a former Indian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia

May 29, 2023 marked the 570th anniversary of the capture of Istanbul (then Constantinople) by the Ottoman sultan, Mehmed II, in 1453. This day also signalled the electoral victory of Turkey's modern-day sultan, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, who has begun a fresh term as President of the Turkish Republic.

The elections for the presidency and the 600-member Parliament on May 14 had upset most forecasts which had suggested that the incumbent President would finally bow out of office and his challenger, Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu, would replace him. However, with an 88% turnout in an electorate of 64 million, Mr. Erdoğan had then obtained 49.5% (27.1 million) of the vote, while his rival got 44.8% (24.6 million). Mr. Erdoğan's alliance, the People's Alliance, also won 323 seats in Parliament as against Mr. Kılıçdaroğlu's Nation Alliance that got 213 seats.

After the May 14 elections, Mr. Kılıçdaroğlu saw the swing to the nationalist right and adopted hard line rhetoric, promising to send back "ten million" Syrian refugees within a year. This did not attract any new support. Most commentators now conceded that Mr. Erdoğan would win in the runoff on May 28.

Erdoğan's appeal

This has now been confirmed. In the May 28 runoff, in a turnout of about 84%, Mr. Erdoğan has obtained 52% of the vote, while his rival got 48%. Both candidates have retained their earlier support base, but Mr. Erdoğan romped home with a larger number of votes – 27.7 million votes versus 25.4 million votes for Mr. Kılıçdaroğlu.

The results of both elections reveal a sharp three-way geographical divide among Turkey's voters. Most of the Turkish heartland of Central Anatolia voted for Mr. Erdoğan, giving him 72% of its vote. The Kurdish areas in the east, the more modern and better developed coastal areas in the west and south and most major cities voted for Mr. Kılıçdaroğlu. Mr. Erdoğan attracted the heartland by identifying with the region's Sunni identity and religious and nationalist values, even as he presented himself as the legatee of Ottoman legacy, upholding its political and military achievements and its civilisational glory. Mr. Kılıçdaroğlu, with his Alevi identity and his liberal persona, was at a disadvantage in this area. However, in the Kurdish and more modern areas of the country, his agenda of returning to the parliamentary system, mainstream economic policies and improved ties with the West were found appealing.

The results of Turkey's presidential and parliamentary elections reveal a sharp three-way geographical divide among its voters, with Mr. Erdoğan scoring in the heartland

The economy will be Mr. Erdoğan's primary concern. Many critics have blamed the President for the country's parlous situation – inflation at 44%, currency depreciation of 80% since 2018, and negative foreign exchange reserves of $151 million just before the May 28 elections.

But Mr. Erdoğan had also benefited from substantial foreign support. Last year, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Saudi Arabia had deposited $5 billion each in Turkey's central bank, while Russia had provided about $10 billion to finance the Akkuyu nuclear power plant. Russia has also agreed to postpone a $600 million Turkish gas bill to 2024.

Turkey's foreign policy

These developments suggest that Turkey is unlikely to change its foreign policy posture in the West versus Russia competition. Western powers find it impossible to accept that their allies could, over time, shape new ideas relating to their interests and role in world affairs. This is particularly true of Turkey, a North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) member since 1952; it has clearly acquired the capacity and the aspiration to chart its own foreign policy positions.

Turkey under Mr. Erdoğan has also expanded its strategic horizons and interests, extending to the Mediterranean, North Africa, West Asia, the Caucasus and Central Asia, the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea, and wishes to shape its own place in the emerging multipolar order.

This approach, reflected in Turkey's role in the Ukraine war – where it is the only NATO member with close ties with both Ukraine and Russia – is, therefore, likely to continue. As will Turkey's close relations with China, based on the importance Turkey attaches to its place in the Belt and Road Initiative.

In West Asia, Turkish diplomacy will include building ties with Saudi Arabia and the UAE, while retaining close links with Qatar. Turkey will also pursue improved relations with Egypt and their working together, with the UAE, to address differences in Libya and the East Mediterranean. Ties with Iran, defined by shared economic interests as also differences in Syria, Iraq and the south Caucasus, will also be a priority concern for Turkey.

The challenge of Syria

The biggest challenge Turkey will face will be in Syria. Before the runoff, Mr. Erdoğan had spoken of engagement with the Bashar al-Assad government in Damascus. They will need to look at Turkey's concerns relating to the Syrian Kurds at the border as also Syria's unhappiness at Turkey's ties with the al Qaeda-affiliated Hayat Tahrir al-Sham at Idlib, and Mr. Assad's insistence on the withdrawal of Turkish troops from Syrian territory.

As Mr. Erdoğan commences his third decade in power, he will, to the chagrin of the West, ensure that Turkey asserts strategic independence in regional and world affairs. In the fresh electoral victory of the President, Turkish nationalism epitomised by Ottoman glory has triumphed.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

At the new building

India has got a new Parliament building amidst political acrimony. It is important to remember that the true spirit of democracy and Parliament is not judged by the lavishness and modernity of a parliamentary building but by the quality of debates, adherence to constitutional provisions and a promotion of active opposition by placing Bills and drafts before parliamentary committees. The new Parliament building devoid of the true spirit of democracy is similar to being old wine in a new bottle.

R. Srivatsan,
Chennai

The disproportionate focus on the *Sengol* is disturbing. Does a symbol connected with royalty have any place in a democracy? Was the prominence given to the *Sengol* meant to convey that the country's top leader was being anointed the ruler of India by all those religious heads who had congregated around him? Was the choice of May 28 for the inauguration meant to convey to the people that the new Parliament building symbolised the fading of a gentle, accommodating and secular India and, instead, the birth of a muscular and theocratic India? When one read the report alongside another report on the shameful treatment of some of India's best sportswomen, one's sense of foreboding was complete.

G.G. Menon,
Tripunithura, Ernakulam, Kerala

The resplendent contours of the new building, the absorbing interiors and the state-of-the-art construction are all very fine. But what is clearly more relevant is the need to maintain its sanctity true to the nomenclature 'Temple of Democracy' that is associated with it. Scenes where adjournments of both Houses have become a matter of routine and where there is a blatant disregard for the Speaker's orders bode ill for a vibrant democracy like ours. Decency and decorum should be the watchwords once Parliament works from its new address.

C.V. Aravind,
Bengaluru

An ugly scene

After witnessing some of the religious rituals performed during the inauguration of the new Parliament building, one really wonders whether India is still a secular country. Many in the nation are shocked that the Vice President and the President of India, who should have inaugurated the edifice, had not even been invited for the inaugural ceremony. There was also evidence of not '*Sengol Aatchi*' but '*Kodungol Aatchi*' after the Indian women wrestlers were manhandled and removed from their protest site. It is a pity that valiant and decorated sportspersons, especially women players who have made our country proud with their excellent performance, are fighting a lone battle.

Tharcius S. Fernando,
Chennai

The ill-treatment of the country's top women wrestlers, who are sportspersons who have brought laurels and honour to India, would bring shame and cause pain in every sensitive Indian's mind. That the ladies are battling for justice and self-respect without any tangible action from the people who matter makes it even more despicable. The ugly episode happening on a day when a new Parliament house, stated to be the symbol of the aspirations of crores of Indians, was opened, was an oxymoronic scene.

Ayyasseri Raveendranath,
Aranmula, Kerala

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

From Master of the Roster to Master of all Judges?

Aditya Bharat Manubarwala

is an Advocate practising at the Supreme Court of India and is a Master of Law graduate in International Law from the University of Cambridge

Recently, a Division Bench of the Supreme Court, in *Ritu Chhabria v. Union of India,* affirmed an undertrial's right to be released on default bail in the event of the investigation remaining incomplete and proceeding beyond the statutory time limit. It frowned upon the practice of investigative agencies charge-sheeting an accused despite the investigation being unfinished. It held that the right to be released on bail will not be extinguished on the mere filing of a preliminary charge-sheet. It concluded that an accused's right to seek default bail would be terminated only upon competition of the investigation within the statutory time limit.

An extraordinary decision

Subsequently, in a surprising turn of events, the Court of the Chief Justice of India (CJI) entertained a recall application moved by the Union of India against this judgment. It then passed an interim order directing courts to decide bail applications without relying on the decision laid down in *Ritu Chhabria* for a short period of time. In a nutshell, by stripping the decision of the Division Bench of its precedential value even if for a short while, the Court of the CJI indirectly stayed the decision despite not having any connection with the verdict.

Ordinarily, the only recourse available to the Union of India was the filing of a review petition, which is usually decided by the same Bench. There was no scope of the review petition being entertained by the Court of the CJI. The only way the Court of the CJI could enter the fray would be if there was another Coordinate Bench seized of the same issue in a *separate matter*, expressing its disagreement with the ratio laid in *Ritu Chhabria* and referring it to the CJI for recommendation to a larger Bench. There was no scope for a recall application being filed against a judgment, that too before an altogether different Bench. Doing so is tantamount to bench fishing or forum shopping. Therefore, by entertaining an intra-court appeal within the Supreme Court as an additional mechanism against an order passed by a Bench that did not include the CJI, the Court of the CJI has effectively instituted a mechanism that is completely devoid of any legislative or constitutional backing.

A recent Supreme Court order has the effect of enlarging the powers of the CJI on the judicial side

First amongst equals

Within the constitutional scheme of things, all judges of the Supreme Court are equal in terms of their judicial powers. However, the CJI enjoys special administrative powers such as constituting Benches and assigning matters and references for reconsideration of a larger Bench. The CJI is known as the 'Master of the Roster.' This is why he is regarded as 'first amongst equals' in relation to companion judges. But in any given Bench including the CJI, the vote or power given to the CJI is the same as that given to his companion judges. History is replete with examples of the CJI authoring a minority opinion of the Court. The most recent such order was the one passed by the Supreme Court in the Economic Weaker Sections quota dispute where the then CJI, Justice U.U. Lalit, along with Justice S. Ravindra Bhat authored the minority opinion of the Court. Most Commonwealth countries such as the U.K., Australia and Canada have this system in place. And countries which don't, such as the U.S., instead have a system where all the judges collectively exercise power and render decisions since they sit en bloc. Thus, they reflect the collective strength of the Court and not of Benches, as is the case in India. In India, the legitimacy of the power of Master of the Roster has been hotly debated, and has been, from time to time, reaffirmed to the extent of administrative decisions for the smooth functioning of the Court. By no stretch of imagination does the present order of the CJI fall within the powers envisaged under the 'Master of the Roster' system. It is ironic that a judgment which emphasised on abiding by the statutory procedure for investigation and bail was effectively undone by a doubtful procedure that is completely alien to both the Constitution as well as the Supreme Court Rules. The interim order raises concerns because, in the near future, if the government is displeased with the order of one Bench, it can simply go before the CJI to get the decision stripped of all its legal sanctity instead of re-convincing the same Bench in a review.

Cause for concern

Despite the administrative usefulness of the 'Master of the Roster' system, the many recorded instances of abuse are a cause for concern. Just five years ago, four senior judges of the Supreme Court alleged serious infirmities and irregularities in the administration and assigning of cases for hearing to Benches of the Court. The powers vested in the CJI by his virtue of being the Master of the Roster are unending. It is impractical to lay any limits on these powers, meant for the smooth administrative functioning of the Court. It is imperative that the CJI himself refrains from expanding his powers as Master of the Roster; the practice of constituting Benches and allocating cases should be completely computerised and left out of the hands of the CJI.

The CJI's powers as the Master of the Roster are meant only for administrative decision-making. The order has the effect of enlarging the powers of the CJI on the judicial side and of creating an unprecedented intra-court appellate mechanism within the Supreme Court in total disregard of the established procedure, which is a review petition. The instant order has also dulled the bright line prohibiting the Court of the CJI from assuming that it is superior to all other Benches.

The BJP outreach to Saivites

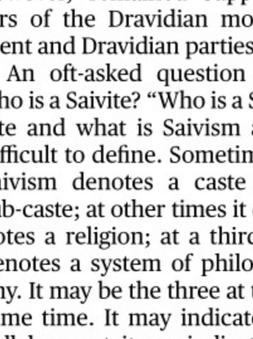
It has sought to mobilise and win over Saivite mutts and their followers

STATE OF PLAY

B. Kolappan
kolappan.b@thehindu.co.in

On the surface, the presence of heads of Saivite mutts from Tamil Nadu at the inauguration of the new Parliament building may offer a likeness to August 14, 1947, when the representative of Thiruvaduthurai Adheenam (mutt) presented a Sengol (sceptre) to Jawaharlal Nehru. But the unprecedented royal reception accorded to the heads of the Saivite mutts clearly indicates that the BJP has a political plan for Tamil Nadu. These non-Brahmin Saivite mutts, unlike the Sankara mutt of Kancheepuram, never maintained a close relationship with political parties. The BJP, or more particularly, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has sought to break the mould and win the confidence of the heads of the mutts and their followers.

"India has been ruled by 14 Prime Ministers. None of them did anything worthwhile for the Tamil language. They ruled from a Parliament [building] constructed by the British... Prime Minister Narendra Modi has proved that he is a true patriot and made us proud," said the head of the Madurai Adheenam. His words reflect the overriding feeling among the heads of mutts, who have always felt sidelined by the politically powerful Sankara mutt in Tamil Nadu. And it has helped in a small way that the BJP, which has not been able to make much headway in Tamil Nadu, where the hold of the two Dravidian parties – AIADMK and DMK – and the fringe elements advocating Dravidian ideology and Tamil nationalism is strong. Except for the



Dravidar Kazhagam (DK), parties including the DMK and AIADMK remain silent on the Delhi event, for they fear antagonising Tamil sentiments.

Though not an organised religious sect like the Lingayats in Karnataka, Saivites in Tamil Nadu played a pivotal role in the formation of the anti-Brahmin movement. Leaders such as Maraimalai Adigal worked closely with DK founder Periyar E.V. Ramasamy since the days of the Self-Respect Movement. But differences on the question of religion created a divide between them, particularly after leaders of the movement launched an attack on *Periya Puranam*, the biography of 63 Saivite saints in verse. The Saivites, however, remained supporters of the Dravidian movement and Dravidian parties.

An oft-asked question is, who is a Saivite? "Who is a Saivite and what is Saivism are difficult to define. Sometimes Saivism denotes a caste or sub-caste; at other times it denotes a religion; at a third it denotes a system of philosophy. It may be the three at the same time. It may indicate a Vellala or not; it may indicate a vegetarian or non-vegetarian," wrote historian A.R. Venkatachalapathy in his article 'Dravidian Movement and Saivites: 1927-1944' in *Economic and Political Weekly,* recalling what Tamil scholar P. Chidambaram Pillai said.

Vellalas, traditionally agriculturists, are the followers of Saivite mutts. They constitute one of the largest communities though they have many sects such as Nanjil Naatu Vellalas, Tirunelveli Vellalas, Chozhia Vellalals, Veerkudi Vellalas, Thondai Mandala Vellalas, Kongu Vellalas and Karkatha Vellalas. Some use the title 'Pillai'. The land-holding community once dominated the Tamil literary world. Vellalas can be vegetarian or non-vegetarian. The vegetarian sect represented by the Tirunelveli Vellalas has always considered itself superior.

"While in other parts of India, upward social mobility is represented by Brahminisation, in Tamil Nadu it was represented by Vellalarisation," wrote Mr. Venkatachalapathy in his book *Dravida Iyakkamum Vellalalrum* (Dravidian Movement and Vellala).

There have been attempts to bring Vellalas under one umbrella. During elections, a few fringe organisations visit parts of Tamil Nadu where the Vellalas have a substantial presence and campaign for the party they support. The reservation offered for the Economically Weaker Section by the BJP also finds favour with a section of the community which is not covered by the communal reservation policy.

"The BJP has resorted to social engineering in Tamil Nadu after implementing it in U.P. It has started playing the card of 'minority community among the Hindus'. There is an increase in the number of devotees visiting Saivites mutts. By making the heads of mutts as power centres, the BJP is trying to lure them into its fold," said writer Srinivasan Natarajan. As a vote bank, Saivites are the 'swing factor' in Tamil Nadu politics and the BJP has sought to consolidate them and make them a solid vote bank, he said.

Performance review: How Parliament has functioned till now

The 17th Lok Sabha could be the shortest full-term Lok Sabha since 1952

DATA POINT

PRS Legislative Research

On Sunday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's new Parliament building. "It is not only a building. It is a reflection of the aspirations and dreams of 140 crore Indians. This is the temple of our democracy giving the message of India's determination to the world," he said. The Congress-led Opposition boycotted the inauguration.

With the new building coming in to use from the next Parliament session, this is a review of the performance of the MPs in the old building. The 17th Lok Sabha, entering its final year, has functioned for 230 sitting days so far. Of all the Lok Sabhas that completed the full five-year term, the 16th Lok Sabha had the lowest number of sitting days (331). With one more year remaining, and 58 average sitting days a year, the 17th Lok Sabha is unlikely to sit for more than 331 days. This could make it the shortest full-term Lok Sabha since 1952.

Chart 1 shows the number of sittings in the last 17 Lok Sabhas, including the ongoing term. The terms of the fourth, sixth, ninth, eleventh and twelfth Lok Sabha were shorter than five years and so the number of sittings were fewer. Among those terms which lasted for at least five years, the 17th Lok Sabha may end up being the shortest. The term of the fifth Lok Sabha was extended for six years.

The Parliamentary Standing Committees were created in 1993 to assist Parliament in its legislative and financial business. Since 2004, of the total Bills introduced in Parliament, only 45% have been referred to Committees. The decline has been more in recent years with the 16th Lok Sabha and 17th (ongoing) Lok Sabha seeing fewer Bills being sent to Committees. **Chart 2** shows the % of Bills referred to the Committees.

In this Lok Sabha, so far, 150 Bills have been introduced and 131 have been passed (excluding Finance and Appropriation Bills). In the first session, 38 Bills were introduced and 28 were passed. Since then, the number of Bills introduced and passed has declined. Fewer than 10 Bills have been introduced or passed in each of the last four consecutive sessions. **Chart 3** shows the number of Bills passed by each Lok Sabha.

The latest Budget session was the sixth shortest Budget session since 1952. The Lok Sabha spent 18 hours on financial business, of which 16 hours were spent discussing the Budget. In the previous Budget sessions of the 17th Lok Sabha, financial business was discussed for 55 hours on average. **Chart 4** shows the time spent on Budget discussions in hours.

The Motion of Thanks on the President's Address was the only item discussed in the latest session. It was discussed for about 28 hours in both Houses, with 150 members participating in total. The Rules of Procedure of both Houses provide for various devices which can be used to draw attention to matters of public importance, and hold the government accountable. These include half-an-hour discussions, short duration discussions, and adjournment motions. In the 17th Lok Sabha, only 11 short duration discussions and one half-an-hour discussion have been held so far. None were held in the latest session. **Chart 5** shows the number of debates conducted in the Lok Sabha.

Article 93 of the Constitution states that the Lok Sabha will choose two Members of the House to be Speaker and Deputy Speaker, as soon as possible. The 17th Lok Sabha has not elected a Deputy Speaker even as it enters the final year of its five-year term. This is despite the Supreme Court issuing a notice to the Central government in February 2023 to respond to a PIL regarding the delay. **Chart 6** shows the days to election of Deputy Speaker.

A poor performance

The charts are sourced from PRS Legislative Research's Vital Stats: Parliament Functioning in Budget Session 2023. The PRS had collated data from the Bulletins of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha and the Statistical Handbook

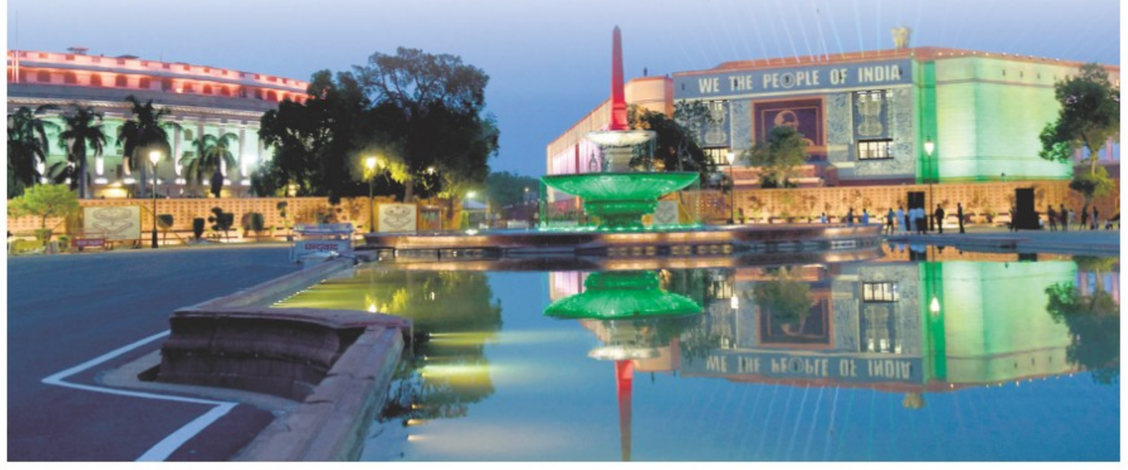
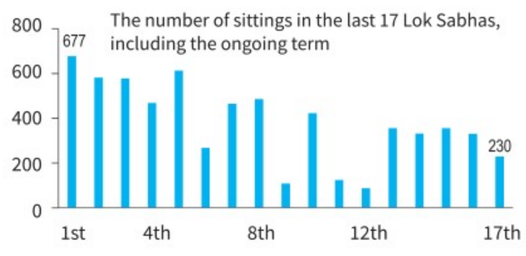


Chart 1



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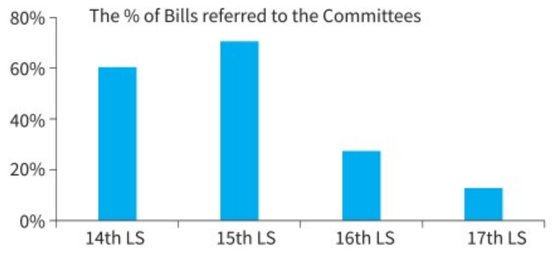

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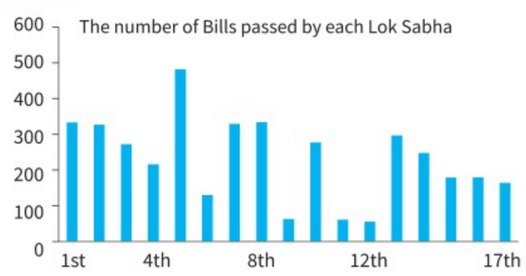


Chart 4

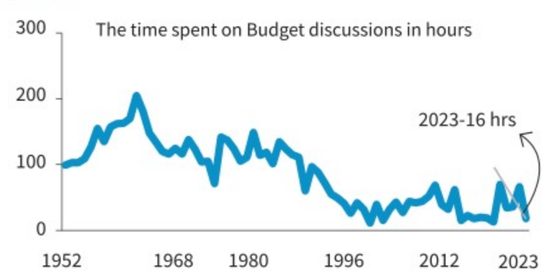


Chart 5

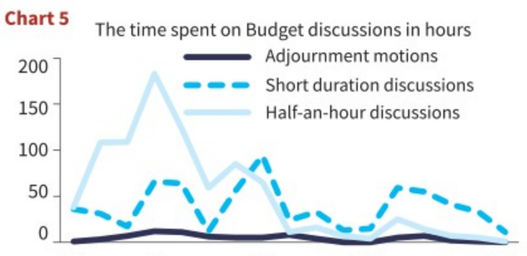
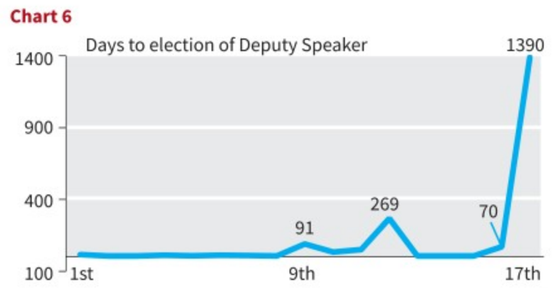


Chart 6



FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO MAY 30, 1973

Pak says it is ready for talks 'with open mind'

New Delhi, May 29: Pakistan, in its latest communication to India, is believed to have expressed its willingness to discuss "with an open mind" every proposal or alternative that may be put forward at the talks to resolve the deadlock, according to the Karachi newspaper "Dawn." A special representative of the paper reporting from Rawalpindi quotes "informed quarters" to say that Pakistan continues to hold that it cannot accept any of the preconditions put forward in the joint Indo-Bangladesh declaration of April 17. But, he says, Pakistan is ready to discuss the points raised by India in order to find an amicable settlement of the issues concerned if India agrees to have talks "without preconditions." He says, quoting "informed circles," the Pakistan Government is keen despite the difficulties inherent in terms of "the Delhi statement" to hold talks with India at an early date – not only for obtaining the "necessary clarifications" of the implications of the Delhi statement but also to explore possibilities for the implementation of the Simla agreement. This means, the special representative says, that the Pakistan Government may not insist on keeping the discussions confined to the repatriation and trial of prisoners of war and other points raised in the Delhi declaration. Other relevant issues may also be discussed, if desired, though the Pakistan Government believes that the process of normalisation of the situation in the sub-continent will be accelerated by India promptly fulfilling its unconditional obligations under the Geneva convention.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO MAY 30, 1923

Reparation payments

Leafield (Oxford), midnight, May 29: In the House of Commons today, a question was asked whether the future of any works in the occupied territory of Germany by the French had any effect on the delivery of reparation dues to this country. The President of the Board of Trade replied that the British Government had taken such action as appeared desirable to avoid interruption of delivery of reparation dues. Satisfactory assurances had been given by the French Government and facilities were being accorded on the spot by French authorities.

From Page One

Shah visits Manipur to plan for peace measures

"We look forward to his actions and directions to end this ongoing ethnic clash between the two communities... We appeal to the Kuki-Zo population to maintain peace and wait for the outcome of his peace mission to the State," the statement read. Meanwhile, one of the Kuki representatives made it clear that they would not travel to Imphal to meet the Minister.

Kuldiep Singh, Security Adviser, Manipur government, told *The Hindu* that Internet services would remain to be suspended in the State as violence continued to be reported from several areas. "In some areas, abandoned houses are being burnt. In some places, houses that have already been burnt are being set on fire." However, officials said there were no reports of violence on Monday, unlike 24 hours ago.

Meanwhile, ahead of Mr. Shah's visit, the Armed Forces on Monday arrested 25 people possessing guns in the State. A Defence statement said Army personnel caught 22 people after receiving information about armed miscreants trying to target the security forces and torch houses in the hilly Yaingangpokpi area of Imphal East district. Five 12-bore double-barrel rifles, three single-barrel rifles, a country-made weapon, a muzzle-loaded weapon, and war-like stores were recovered from them. In a separate operation, the Armed Forces apprehended three miscreants in Imphal's New Checkon area and recovered an INSAS rifle, 60 cartridges, a Chinese hand grenade, and a detonator. All the 25 were handed over to the police and arrested.

The Indian Army said in a tweet that acting on specific intelligence, it has mobilised in Sanasabi, Gwaltabi and Shabunkhol Khunao villages in hill regions of Imphal.

Rolls-Royce booked on graft charge

This was done allegedly in lieu of bribes, commissions and kickbacks paid by the manufacturer and its officers to the intermediaries, in violation of the terms and conditions of the contracts in question. The inquiry revealed that in 2008-10, the accused persons also approved licensed manufacturing of 57 more Hawk aircraft by the HAL for ₹9,502.68 crore under a separate agreement with BAE Systems (Operations) Limited, a BAES Group entity. Meanwhile, Roll-Royce's spokesperson in London said they were continuing to assist Indian authorities in the investigation. "The allegations being investigated by the CBI were disclosed in the Deferred Prosecution Agreement agreed with the UK's Serious Fraud office in 2017. Rolls-Royce today is a fundamentally different business. We will not tolerate business misconduct of any sort and are committed to maintaining high ethical standards," the spokesperson said.

It is alleged that the Income Tax Department had seized vital documents related to the suspect transactions with intermediaries from premises of Rolls-Royce India Limited during a survey in 2006-07. However, the accused persons caused disappearance/removal/destruction of the papers to evade investigation by the Indian agenciesinto the alleged bungling in the deal.

In January 2008, the HAL requested the Defence Ministry for an approval to enter into an agreement for licensed manufacturing of 57 additional Hawk aircraft. HAL placed an order on Rolls-Royce/BAE Systems in 2010, which also contained a clause prohibiting use of any agent or third party. The aircraft were delivered to the Indian Air Force between March 2013 and July 2016. Meanwhile, in 2012, media reports alleging corruption in the operation of Rolls-Royce's civil business surfaced, which led to a probe by the Serious Fraud Office, London. A deferred prosecution agreement was reached between the company and the SFO. On that agreement, the Crown Court delivered a judgment dated July 17, 2017, which revealed concealment of the role of intermediaries in the defence business in India between 2005 and 2009 despite the "Integrity Pact" prohibition on employing intermediaries.

The court order mentioned the payment of £1 million by Rolls-Royce to an intermediary for increase of licence fee from £4 to 7.50 million.

Don't support AAP, Congress leaders tell high command

Kejriwal has sought backing in fight against Centre's Delhi ordinance; arguing against AAP, Congress leaders from Delhi and Punjab pointed out that it had been calling them BJP's 'B-team'

Sandeep Phukan
Jaideep Deo Bhanj
NEW DELHI

Strong opposition: Punjab Congress in-charge Harish Chaudhary and other party leaders in New Delhi on Monday. PTI

The Congress should neither support the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in its fight against the Centre's ordinance on the posting and transfers of civil servants in the national capital nor should it meet the AAP's convenor and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, leaders from Delhi and Punjab told party president Mallikarjun Kharge and former MP Rahul Gandhi on Monday.

The meeting was convened by Mr. Kharge after Mr. Kejriwal sought to meet him and Mr. Gandhi to seek their support in Parliament against the Centre's ordinance that gives the Lieutenant-Governor of Delhi the final say over bureaucrats serving in the Delhi government.

Mr. Kejriwal has already met several Chief Ministers of Opposition parties, including Mamata Banerjee (West Bengal), K. Chandrashekhar Rao (Telangana) and Nitish Kumar (Bihar), and Opposition leaders, including Sharad Pawar of the NCP and Uddhav Thackeray of the Shiv Sena (UBT faction), and secured their backing.

The Congress chief, however, is said to have conveyed to Mr. Kejriwal that he would take a decision after having a word with State party leaders.

Mr. Kharge and Mr. Gandhi, along with Congress general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal, met the party's Punjab and Delhi leaders at the All India Congress Committee headquarters over two separate sessions to take their opinion.

A couple of leaders who were part of the Punjab meeting told *The Hindu* that they had strongly opposed supporting the AAP or "trusting" Mr. Kejriwal. They said they had pointed out that the AAP had been viciously targeting Congress workers by registering cases against them and arresting them, and calling them the "B-team" of the BJP. While some Congress leaders argued that Mr. Kejriwal and his party had never stood by the Congress, others argued that the Delhi Chief Minister was now trying to reach out after finding himself "cornered" in the Delhi liquor policy and, more recently, the controversial renovation of his official residence which reportedly cost over ₹50 crore.

If the Congress high command decided to support the AAP, the Punjab unit could meet the same fate as the Delhi unit that got decimated in successive Assembly elections, a leader said.

"All the leaders have said the party high command will decide and we have left it to party chief Mallikarjun Kharge to take the final decision," Punjab Congress chief Amrinder Singh Raja said.

Without divulging his position on the issue, Mr. Sidhu, however, asserted that India's constitutional values had been devalued and that "people should rise above partisan interests and stand with democratic principles".

Joining hands: Congress leaders K.C. Venugopal, Ashok Gehlot and Sachin Pilot speaking to the media after the meeting on Monday. PTI

Gehlot and Pilot agree to fight elections together

Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

Seeking to work out a "peace formula" between two warring party leaders, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Monday met Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and his former Deputy Chief Minister, Sachin Pilot, in the presence of senior party leader Rahul Gandhi.

After a marathon four-hour meeting, the Congress announced that the two leaders will contest the elections unitedly and released pictures of the closed door meeting.

The first meeting was between Mr. Gehlot and the Congress chief at the latter's residence at around 6 p.m., along with Mr. Gandhi and party general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal.

Then, after about half an hour, the party's in-charge for Rajasthan, Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa, joined in.

More than two hours later, Mr. Pilot joined the meeting that went on until 10.15 p.m. This is the first time in many months that the Chief Minister and Mr. Pilot were meeting each other in the presence of the party's top leadership, and comes close on the heels of Mr. Pilot's 'ultimatum' to the Gehlot government. Mr. Pilot had threatened to launch a State-wide agitation if his demands, including one for a high-level inquiry into the alleged scams under former Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje's government, were not met by the end of the month.

"The meeting went on for four hours and both leaders have decided to fight the elections unitedly and we will win against the BJP. Both the leaders have agreed to the proposal and have left it to the high command," he said.

Mr. Venugopal did not specify what the proposal was, various options were speculated upon, including the proposal to make Mr. Pilot the Rajasthan Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) chief once again while Mr. Gehlot continued as the Chief Minister.

On possible formula

However, before the meeting started, when asked to comment on any possible formula to take Mr. Pilot on board, Mr. Gehlot made his opposition clear. "As far as I know, there is no such tradition in the Congress where any leader demands something and the party high command offers to give that position. We have not heard of such a formula ever," he said.

"Never has such a thing happened in the Congress so far and neither will it happen in the future. The Congress party and the high command is very strong and no leader or worker has the courage to demand any position. It does not happen like that," Mr. Gehlot added.

HC notice to Yasin Malik on NIA's plea for death penalty

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Monday issued notice to separatist leader Yasin Malik, who is serving life imprisonment, on the National Investigation Agency's (NIA) plea seeking death penalty for him in a terror funding case.

A Bench also ordered for production of Malik before the court on August 9.

Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, representing the NIA, called for treating the matter as a "rarest of rare" case as Malik indulged in terrorist and secessionist activities. Mr. Mehta reminded that Malik committed "sensational" killing of four IAF officers and even kidnapped the daughter of then Home Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed which led to the release of four dreaded criminals who masterminded the 26/11 attack in Mumbai in 2008.

On May 25, 2022, Malik was convicted by an NIA court in Delhi on charges of terrorism and was awarded life in prison. Malik had pleaded guilty.

Meanwhile, banned Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front termed the plea"nefarious and politically motivated".

Party will win 150 seats in Madhya Pradesh polls: Rahul

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday said that the party will repeat its Karnataka electoral performance and win 150 seats in the Madhya Pradesh Assembly elections, slated for later this year. He is scheduled to to depart for the U.S. late on Monday night/early on Tuesday

Party president Mallikarjun Kharge has convened a meeting of leaders from poll-bound States of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. Top Congress leaders from Madhya Pradesh Kamal Nath and Digvijaya Singh were present. Poll strategist Sunil Kanugolu, who played a key role in the Congress' win in Karnataka, and All India Congress Committee (AICC) incharge J.P. Aggarwal were among those present.

Repeat performance

"We had a lengthy discussion. It is our internal assessment that in Madhya Pradesh, we are going to get 150 seats. What we did in Karnataka, we are going to repeat that [in Madhya Pradesh]," Mr. Gandhi told presspersons after the meeting.

While Mr. Nath evaded a question on being the party's chief ministerial face, he said, "All are of the opinion that we will enter the poll fray unitedly."

Asked if the party would provide guarantees as it had in Karnataka, Mr. Nath said that a beginning had been made in Madhya Pradesh with the 'Nari Samman Yojana'. "We have done some and some will be announced in the future. We can't fire all the bullets in one go," Mr. Nath said.

Northeast gets its first Vande Bharat Express

All aboard: Ministers Ashwini Vaishnaw, Sarbananda Sonowal and Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma flagging off the train. PTI

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off northeast region's first Vande Bharat Express virtually on Monday. The train will connect Guwahati in Assam with New Jalpaiguri in West Bengal and the journey will take five-and-a-half hours. Earlier, the fastest train on the route took 6.5 hours to cover the distance of nearly 400 km.

Mr. Modi also dedicated 182 route km of newly electrified sections to the nation. Now, 425 km of railway tracks in Assam and Meghalaya have been electrified. This will help provide pollution-free transportation at higher speeds and less running time.

Mr. Modi said that prior to 2014, the average Railway budget for the northeast was about ₹2,500 crore, which has grown to more ₹10,000 crore in the current year, which is a four-fold increase. "Now, the capitals of Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Sikkim are being connected to the rest of the country. Very soon, all capital cities of the northeast are going to be connected by a broad gauge network," he said.

Mr. Modi said the Guwahati-New Jalpaiguri Vande Bharat train will strengthen the centuries-old ties between Assam and West Bengal. This will increase ease of travel and bring huge benefits to students as well as generate more job opportunities through tourism and business.

Wrestlers regroup after Sunday's action, to decide future strategy

Mehul Malpani
NEW DELHI

A day after the police action in which their protest site was cleared and they were detained, the protesting wrestlers held discussions among themselves on Monday to decide their strategy to keep the stir against Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, accused of sexual harassment.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Sakshi Malik said the wrestlers and organisers held meetings throughout the day to work on the strategy. "The entire country saw what happened yesterday. It was an example of dictatorship. But that will not stop us from our struggle. We are discussing multiple ways to continue the stir and will reach a decision by tomorrow [Tuesday]," she said.

On Sunday, Sakshi Malik, Vinesh Phogat and Bajrang Punia were among over a hundred protesters who were detained by the Delhi Police after they decided to march to the new Parliament building. The women protesters were released in the evening and men much later in the night from various police stations that they were detained in. The Monday's discussions were also attended by Ms. Phogat, Mr. Punia, wrestler Satyawart Kadian among others.

The police had said on Monday that they would not allow the wrestlers to return to the Jantar Mantar for the protest and accused them of creating a "riot-like situation". The police also registered an FIR against Ms. Phogat, Ms. Malik, Mr. Punia and others for allegedly assaulting public servants, rioting, damaging public property, among other charges.

BJP looted people, says Cong. chief

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Monday took a dig at the government over the completion of nine years in office, accusing it of "looting" people's earnings through "deadly inflation" while making "arrogant claims" about it.

"Arrogant claims – 'inflation is not visible' or 'we do not eat this expensive thing at all'. Journey from 'Acche Din' to 'Amrit Kaal', due to inflation, the amount of public loot has increased!" he said.

Union Ministers, BJP CMs say a new India has emerged under 9 years of Modi rule

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

In a nationwide public outreach, Union Ministers, Chief Ministers of BJP-ruled States and the party's top leaders on Monday highlighted the achievements of nine years of Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government at the Centre.

From welfare schemes to infrastructural development, COVID management to measures like free housing and toilets, from global stature of India to national security, party leaders highlighted every initiative

Anurag Thakur

of the Modi government and also expressed full faith of coming to power, with full majority, in 2024.

Minister for Information and Broadcasting and Youth Affairs, Anurag Thakur, who was sharing the dais with Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, said the country had witnessed "unprecedented" development in every sector due to Mr. Modi's policies. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, addressing a celebration in Lucknow, said the government had brought safe borders, world-class infrastructure and 'great' global esteem.

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said the State had set new records in the fields of better connectivity, education, medical, infrastructure and tourism and agriculture under the Prime Minister's guidance. Similar words were echoed by Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chauhan and Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar.

Minister Arjun Munda, in Raipur, said the country had never witnessed such scale of development and growth as it had seen since 2014. Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia participated in one such event in Delhi while Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal was in Hyderabad, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in Mumbai and Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat in Patna.

BJP's Manvendra Singh Chauhan (left) and Padmasen Chowdhary after winning MLC election in Lucknow on Monday. PTI

BJP candidates win MLC bypolls in Uttar Pradesh

The Hindu Bureau
LUCKNOW

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Monday won the byelections on two seats in the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council, defeating the Samajwadi Party (SP).

The saffron party candidates – Kunwar Manvendra Singh and Padmasen Chaudhary – defeated the SP nominees – Ram Jatan Rajbhar and Ram Karan – by 164 votes each.

Out of the 403 MLAs, 396 polled their votes in the Vidhan Bhavan complex. Two MLAs from the Congress, lone legislator of the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) and one SP MLA did not cast their votes. Besides, three MLAs - Irfan Solanki, Abbas Ansari and Ramakant Yadav - who are in prison were not able to cast their votes.

The seats had fallen vacant due to the appointment of Laxman Acharya as the Governor of Sikkim and the demise of Banwari Lal Dohre.

CM Yogi Adityanath congratulated BJP nominees for the victory. "We have full faith that according to the vision of the Prime Minister, the public conduct, hard work and experience of members will be helpful in achieving the resolution of 'self-reliant Uttar Pradesh'," he said.

FM slams Chidambaram's remarks on ₹2,000 note

Decision on note recall was taken by the RBI, says Nirmala Sitharaman; Congress leader had said the introduction and withdrawal cast doubt on the integrity and stability of Indian currency

Abhinay Deshpande
MUMBAI

The Centre is monitoring inflationary pressures and will not let its guard down on inflation, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said here on Monday. "We are monitoring all data at ground level also. Inflation is already moderating," she said.

Ms. Sitharaman highlighted that retail inflation has decreased to 4.8%, and the overall inflation rate is nearing negative territory. "The government is actively monitoring the prices of essential items such as food grains, vegetables, and fruits across various markets in the country. Appropriate measures are being taken to address the rising prices of specific commodities whenever required," she said.

Further, she slammed Congress leader and former Union Finance Minister P. Chidambaram over his comments on the withdrawal of ₹2,000 currency note and said to cast doubt or rush to judgment on matters of this nature "does not augur well". Ms. Sitharaman said the decision to withdraw the ₹2,000 note was taken by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

> I would think it is better to understand the situation and provide observations which are commensurate with the office he had held
>
> **NIRMALA SITHARAMAN**
> Finance Minister

Mr. Chidambaram had said that the introduction of the ₹2,000 note and its withdrawal have cast doubt on the integrity and stability of Indian currency. He stated that key economic indicators are pointing downward and there is low confidence that the economy will reach the high growth path.

"The (UPA) government lasted for 10 years, during which for a large part he was Finance Minister. There were several questions we had raised in Parliament and we never had a substantial answer for them. I would think it is better to understand the situation and provide observations which are commensurate with the office he had held and not be frivolous about commenting and judging it," Ms. Sitharaman said.

Earlier, Mr. Chidambaram expressed growing concern about adherence to the Constitution in the governance of the country. "From time to time, we have taken stock of the performance of the government, but the start of the 10th year is an important juncture," adding that Constitutional governance, defence and security, economy, social conflict and divisions, inflation, unemployment, inequality and poverty are crucial issues that require urgent discussion. The Modi government has spread its assumed legislative footprint into subjects that are legitimate concerns of the State governments and has curtailed their legislative and executive powers, he said.

"Governors of non-BJP ruled States are acting like Viceroys. Parliamentary rules and conventions are violated. Debate in Parliament is becoming rare and even calls for vote by division on important Bills have been brushed aside. Legislation is pushed through without discussion and bypassing scrutiny by Parliamentary Standing Committees," he said.

He alleged that Central probe agencies are being deployed to destabilise State governments using false cases, threats of investigations and arrests.

3 months on, lone Bengal Cong. MLA joins Trinamool

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

In a major setback to the Congress in West Bengal, its only MLA in the State Assembly, Bayron Biswas, on Monday joined the Trinamool Congress.

Mr. Biswas was elected less than three months ago in the bypolls for the Sagardighi Assembly seat.

The victory of Mr. Biswas with a margin of 22,986 votes in a constituency with 75% minority population was also seen as a section of minority votes shifting away from the West Bengal ruling party. The development on Monday, however, has come as a shock for the State Congress leadership.

Mr. Biswas joined the Trinamool at Ghatal in Paschim Medinipur.

Speaking to mediapersons, the MLA said the Congress party had no role in his victory in the Sagardighi bypoll. He said he had realised that it is extremely difficult to continue politics if the person does not represent the ruling party.

Bayron Biswas

Abhishek Banerjee said that the MLA had decided to join Trinamoolsoon after winning the Assembly bypolls. "He had realised that State Congress president Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury is not serious about taking on the BJP," the Trinamool leader said.

Mr. Chowdhury alleged that Trinamool has overturned the mandate of the people who had elected Bayron Biswas on a Congress ticket.

"In future we will try to have more honest candidates," he said. The defeat at Sagardighi had come as a major debacle to Trinamool Congress leadership.

On the question whether Bayron Biswas will resign and seek a fresh mandate of the people, Mr. Banerjee said that since he is only MLA, the anti-defection laws do not apply.

Muslims lag behind all communities in higher education; U.P. shows worst decline, says study

Ziya Us Salam
NEW DELHI

Be it learning or teaching, the Muslim community is lagging behind all communities, including the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, in higher education. These are the findings of the latest All India Survey on Education conducted under the Ministry of Education.

The AISHE Survey 2020-21 presents a dismal picture of the community. At a time when the enrolment of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in higher education improved by 4.2%, 11.9% and 4%, respectively, compared with 2019-20, the Muslim community's enrolment declined by 8%, numbering around 1,79,000 students. This unprecedented decline, caused partially by the COVID-19 pandemic, points to the relative economic impoverishment of the community, which forces its talented students to pursue earning opportunities after completing schooling rather than enrolling for higher education, beginning at the graduation level.

The most drastic decline was reported from Uttar Pradesh (36%), followed by Jammu and Kashmir (26%), Maharashtra (8.5%) and Tamil Nadu (8.1%). In Delhi, every fifth Muslim student failed to enrol for higher education after completing the Senior School Certificate Examination. This takes away some of the sheen from the Aam Aadmi Party's (AAP) much talked about improvements in education in the national capital.

In Delhi, every fifth Muslim student failed to enrol for higher education after completing Class 10

Similarly, in Uttar Pradesh, where Muslims are about 20% of the population, the community's enrolment for higher education stands at a mere 4.5% even though the State has reported a significant increase in the number of colleges during the year.

Kerala is the only State which bucks the trend of Muslims languishing at the bottom of the education pile. Here, 43% Muslims go for higher education.

The survey presents a bright picture of the OBCs, which accounts for 36% of the total enrolment in higher education in the country. The SCs bring up another 14%. The two communities cover nearly 50% of the seats in universities and colleges.

The Muslim community proves a laggard, accounting for only 4.6% higher education enrolment though the community's share in the country's population stands at over 14%.

Interestingly, Muslims and other minorities have more female students than male students, pointing to a gradual uplift of the women of the minority communities. It also point towards the pressure to earn a living at the earliest on the male members of the community.

The poor entry-level presence of Muslims in pursuing higher education is mirrored by the equally bleak presence of Muslim teachers in institutions. At an all-India level, teachers belonging to the General Category account for 56% of all teachers. OBC, SC and ST teachers make up another 32%, 9% and 2.5% of the teachers, respectively. Muslims constitute only 5.6% of the teachers.

JD(U) slams its MP for taking part in Parliament opening

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

The Janata Dal (United) has reacted sharply to its MP and Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha Harivansh's decision to attend the inaugural ceremony of the new Parliament against the party's order boycotting the event along with 21 other Opposition parties.

Mr. Harivansh played a pivotal role in the proceedings reading out messages from President Droupadi Murmu and Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar.

JD(U) president Rajiv Ranjan Singh strongly criticised Mr. Harivansh's decision. When asked to explain Mr. Harivansh's participation while rest of the party MPs stayed away, Mr. Singh told *The Hindu*, "It is for him (Mr. Harivansh) to explain. It clearly looks like he has thrown his moral conscience in a dustbin and moved on. The entire Opposition took a collective decision not to be part of this exercise in self-aggrandisation and an attempt to rewrite the history of the country."

Ignoring the JD(U)'s political re-alignment in August 2022, when it walked out of alliance with the BJP to join hands with the RJD, the Congress and the Left parties, Mr. Harivansh continued to be in the post.

Over 25,000 visited Kheer Bhawani Mela in Valley: Shah

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Monday that over 25,000 devotees attended the annual Kheer Bhawani fair in Kashmir.

The Kheer Bhawani fair began on May 26 and concluded on Sunday on the occasion of 'Jyeshtha Ashtami' for which devotees came to the temple in 107 buses from Jammu.

"More than 25,000 devotees attended the Mela. I congratulate L-G Manoj Sinha, CAPFs, police and the local administration on the successful completion of the Kheer Bhawani Mela," Mr. Shah tweeted.

President to pay visit to Suriname and Serbia

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

President Droupadi Murmu will visit Suriname and Serbia from June 4 to 9, the Ministry of External Affairs said on Monday. These will be her first State visits after assuming office in July 2022.

The President will be visiting Paramaribo, Suriname, from June 4-6 at the invitation of Chandrikapersad Santokhi, President of the Republic of Suriname, the MEA said. Ms. Murmu will hold bilateral talks with her Suriname counterpart and be the chief guest at celebrations to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the arrival of Indians in the South American nation.

Mr. Santokhi was in India in January this year as a guest of honour for the 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas.

Ms. Murmu will then visit the Republic of Serbia from June 7-9 at the invitation of Aleksandar Vučić, President of Serbia.

Ms. Murmu will also address a business event and interact with the diaspora.

भारत सरकार टकसाल, मुंबई
INDIA GOVERNMENT MINT, MUMBAI
आईएसओ 9001:2015, आईएसओ 14001:2015 एवं एनएबीएल/आईएसओ 17025:2017 प्रमाणित इकाई
भारत प्रतिभूति मुद्रण तथा निर्माण निगम लिमिटेड की इकाई
सीआईएन : U22213DL2006GOI144763
मिनी-रत्न श्रेणी । सीपीएसई (भारत सरकार के पूर्ण स्वामीत्वाधीन)
शहीद भगत सिंह मार्ग, फोर्ट, मुंबई – 400 001
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Shahid Bhagat Singh Road, Fort, Mumbai-400 001
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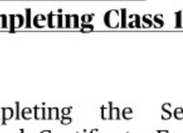
NOTICE

BOOKING OF "Diamond Jubilee of National Cadet Corps" Commemorative Coin Set.

India Government Mint, Mumbai (A unit of Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Ltd.) is pleased to notify booking of commemorative coin sets in Proof and Uncirculated varieties of following themes.



Theme	Proof (Rs.)	UNC (Rs.)
Diamond Jubilee of National Cadet Corps (Denomination of ₹75) – Folder Packing	3820.00	3300.00
Diamond Jubilee of National Cadet Corps (Denomination of ₹75) – Wooden Packing	4275.00	3990.00

The booking period will be from 30.05.2023 to 10.07.2023. The coin sets can be booked online on our website **igmmumbai.spmcil.com.** Alternately, the coin sets can be ordered offline by submitting an order form available on our website or by giving details on plain paper viz. Name and full address in capital letters, details of coin sets required along with the prescribed price as stated above.

The payment for offline booking is to be made by Demand Draft only drawn on any scheduled bank in favour of **'INDIA GOVERNMENT MINT (UNIT OF SPMCIL) COLLECTION A/C'** payable at Mumbai. The coins will be delivered through India Post within Two (2) months from the date of closure of booking and no cancellation is allowed once order. Grievances of non-receipt of coin should be brought to the notice of concern department within ninety days from the date of order. The Mint will not be responsible for the delay or loss of the coin sets dispatched by post and the claim for substitute coin sets will not be undertaken unless and until the postal authorities refund the insured amount.

For other detailed terms and conditions and online booking please visit customer corner section of our web site:**igmmumbai.spmcil.com**

-Sd-
Dy. General Manager (Marketing)
For Chief General Manager

DELHI JAL BOARD, (GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI)
OFFICE OF THE ACE(DR.) PROJECT -III
THROUGH EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (C) DR-VIII
YAMUNA VIHAR SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT, (ADJOINING DR. AMBEDKAR COLLEGE)
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" STOP CORONA: WASH YOUR HAND, WEAR MASK, MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING"

PRESS NIT NO. 4 (2023-24)

S. No.	Name of work	Estimated Contract Value (ECV)/ Amount put to tender (Rs.)	Earnest Money (EMD)(Rs.)	Tender Processing Fee Non Refundable (Rs)	Date of Release of Tender / Tender Id.	Last Date / Time of receipt of tender
1	Providing House Sewer Connection From nearest DJB manholes upto individual household in left out colonies of Gokalpur AC-68	31,93,29,067/-	41,93,500/-	1500/-	2023_DJB_241835_1 Dated : 26.05.2023	16.06.2023 upto 3:00 P.M

Further details in this regard can be seen at https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) R.K. Jain
Advt. No. J.S.V. 48(2023-24) EE(C)DR-VIII

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
DIRECTORATE OF HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION
CENTRALISED ADMISSION COMMITTEE-CENTAC
KAMARAJAR MANIMANDAPAM, KARUVADIKUPPAM, PUDUCHERRY - 605 008

ADMISSION NOTIFICATON TO PG (MEDICAL / DENTAL) COURSES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-24

Online applications are invited from NEET PG Qualified candidates for admission to the first year PG (Medical/Dental) courses in the Government and Self - Financing Medical Colleges in the U.T of Puducherry. Applications are invited under Government / All India (Management) Quota. For more details visit **www.centacpuducherry.in**

IMPORTANT DATES

- Online application submission opens on : 30.05.2023
- Last date for online submission of application : 13.06.2023

No.098/DIP/AD (Press)/2023-24 **CONVENOR, CENTAC**

WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of West Bengal Enterprise)
WBSETCL
Registered Office: Vidyut Bhavan, Block-DJ, Sector-II, Bidhannagar, Kolkata-700 091
CIN: U40101WB2007SGC113474 • web: www.wbsetcl.in

NIT No.: CE(P)/WBSETCL/CT/23-24/05 Date: 30.05.2023

The **Chief Engineer (Procurement)** invites e-Tender for procurement of Current Transformers. Interested bidders may obtain bidding documents by registering themselves on the e-tendering portal (**https://wbtenders.gov.in**). Bid documents can be downloaded from **30.05.2023, 11:00 A.M.** and bids shall be submitted (online) up to **12:00 Noon, 27.06.2023.** Visit the Company's website **www.wbsetcl.in** for details.
ICA- T10993(4)/2023

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
BUILDINGS AND ROADS DIVISION
P.W.D., KARAIKAL

e-TENDER NOTICE No.04/PW/B&R/KKL/2023-24, dated 29-05-2023

On behalf of President of India, e-tenders are invited from the eligible contractors / firms by the Executive Engineer, Buildings and Roads Division. PWD.. Karaikal for 4 Road Works Closing time for submission of E-tender is 3:30 PM on 13-06-2023 Other details / information can be seen in the website **https://pudutenders.gov.in**

Sd/-
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - B&R
PWD, KARAIKAL

NO.63/DIP/KKL/ADVT/2023

Government of Kerala
Published Tenders from 25-05-2023 to 28-05-2023
Department of Agriculture
Tender ID: 2023_AGRI_578432_1 * State Agricultural Engineer * RKVY Infrastructure development works in Vettackal B Padash * Closing Date: 17-Jun-2023 * PAC: Rs10884774
Visit **https://etenders.kerala.gov.in** for more details.
Ro.No:25-28/May/2023/PRD/(N)8

KMML Spreading Splendour
The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd
(A Govt. Of kerala Undertaking) Sankaramangalam, Kollam 691583,
phone: 0476-2651215-2651217, email: contact@kmml.com, URL: www.kmml.com
TENDER NOTICE
For more details please visit E-Tendering Portal, https://etenders.kerala.gov.in or www.kmml.com

No.	Tender Id	Items
1	2023_KMML_578804_1	Global tender for Design, Engineering, Manufacturing, Supply at Site, Supervision during Erection Commissioning & Performance testing of 1 No. compact & Energy efficient Tickle pre-heaters at KMML, Sankaramangalam, Chavara, Kollam, Kerala, India
2	2023_KMML_578325_1	For the supply of PTFE Pipe Spool

Chavara 29.05.2023 Sd/- Managing Director for The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd

ANDHRA PRADESH TECHNOLOGY SERVICES LTD. (APTS)
Tender call notice for **"Selection of Service Provider to establish and maintain 'REGISTRATION SERVICE CENTRES' for CARD Project" of the Registrations & Stamps Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh".** Bid calling date: **29-05-2023.** Pre-bid Conference Date/ time: **05-06-2023, 11.00 AM.** Bid Submission closing date/time: **21-06-2023, 3.00 PM.** APTS Contact person: PPV Satyanarayana, Manager, e-mail: **pvssatyanaryana.p@gov.in** Contact No.**9963029416**. Reference No. ITC51-20021/13/2023-INFR-APTS. For details, please visit **https://www.apts.gov.in/tenders.aspx** OR **www.apeprocurement.gov.in**
DIPR 2114PP/CL, Dt: 29-05-2023 Sd/- Managing Director, APTSL

Government of India
Department of Atomic Energy
Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research
Kalpakkam.
SELECTION OF JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOW
Advertisement No. IGCAR/02/2023
Number of Fellowships: 100
Opening Date: 29.05.2023 Closing Date : 16.06.2023

Online applications are invited from interested candidates for the award of Junior Research Fellowship in IGCAR.

Candidate may apply for the advertised position by visiting IGCAR website using the link below. After applying online, candidates are required to forward the hardcopy application along with supporting documents Assistant Personnel Officer (R), Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research, Kalpakkam - 603 102 superscribing **"Junior Research Fellow"** on the envelope so as to reach IGCAR on or before **21.06.2023.** In addition to sending by post, scanned copy of signed application form & supporting documents must be sent by email to **jrfrect@igcar.gov.in** with subject as **"JRF - (<Application No.>)".**

For details, please visit http://www.igcar.gov.in/recruitment.html

INBRIEF

Srivastava sworn in as Central Vigilance Commissioner

Vigilance Commissioner Praveen Kumar Srivastava ((first from left in picture) was sworn in by President Droupadi Murmu as the Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) on Monday. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar attended the ceremony. Since December last year, Mr. Srivastava had been working as the acting CVC following the completion of his predecessor Suresh N. Patel's tenure. Mr. Srivastava had retired as Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat, on January 31, 2022. During his tenure with the government, he assisted in negotiations under the WTO as Director in the Department of Commerce.

Militants shoot dead civilian in Kashmir's Anantnag district

Militants shot dead a civilian in south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Monday evening. "Terrorists fired upon a civilian namely Deepu, a resident of Udhampur district, who was working at an amusement park near Janglaat Mandi in Anantnag. He was taken to a hospital where he succumbed to his injuries," the police said. The police said a case was registered. "An investigation is going on." This is the second killing of a civilian in Kashmir this year. In February, a Kashmiri Pandit, who was working as a bank guard, was shot dead by militants in south Kashmir's Pulwama.

Six labourers electrocuted as high-tension line falls on them

Six labourers were electrocuted to death after an electric pole they were erecting fell on a high-tension overhead wire in Jharkhand's Dhanbad district on Monday, railway officials said. Baghmara Deputy Superintendent of Police Nisha Murmu said the incident took place near Nichitpur railway station, around 145 km from Ranchi. All of them were working under a small contractor, who reportedly fled the spot after the incident, an official said. Dhanbad Divisional Railway Manager Kamal Kishore Sinha rushed to the spot after the incident. Five dead in the incident have been identified. PTI

Mortal remains of U.S. officer sent home after 58 years

The mortal remains of Major General Harry Kleinbeck Pickett, one of America's most decorated officers who fought in both World War I and World War II, are being returned home to the U.S. from West Bengal's Darjeeling. He would be reburied at the Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia in the U.S., an official statement said. Major General Pickett died in 1965 while visiting Darjeeling and was buried in the hill town. "Our first priority as U.S. government public servants is protecting and supporting American citizens. Helping reunite Major General Pickett with his family is a privilege and an honour for us," Melinda Pavek, U.S. Consul General in Kolkata said, expressing gratitude to the governments of India and West Bengal for their support.

New writers from Goa get a boost with novel scheme

The Hindu Bureau
PUNE

As part of a novel book-sponsorship scheme aimed at promoting young Goan writers, Goa Governor P.S. Sreedharan Pillai on Monday released the first round of books published under the Raj Bhavan's *Nayi Pahal* programme.

A total of five books in Konkani, Marathi and English languages were unveiled in the presence of Jnanpith Award winner Goan writer Damodar Mauzo today.

The scheme was first announced by him in February with the objective of helping talented local writers to get their first books published, with the Raj Bhavan bearing printing expenses.

"At present, the road to reward and recognition is always a hard struggle, especially for people from weaker sections of the society," said Mr. Pillai.

The Raj Bhavan plans to publish 100 books in the next one year, while sponsoring books in 22 scheduled languages, the Governor said.

16-year-old girl stabbed to death in busy Delhi lane

20-year-old accused held in U.P.; video shows passers-by watching the attack without intervening; Delhi CM urges L-G to 'do something' to set right law and order; NCW sets up probe committee

Samridhi Tewari
NEW DELHI

A 16-year-old girl was stabbed multiple times and bludgeoned to death in northwest Delhi allegedly by a 20-year-old person in full public view on Sunday. The accused has been arrested from Bulandshahr in Uttar Pradesh, the police said on Monday.

A video of the purported incident went viral on social media, which shows the accused, Sahil Khan, stabbing her more than 20 times and then attacking her head with stones, while passers-by watched, without trying to stop him. He then fled to Bulandshahr. The incident took place in a densely populated and busy lane in the Shahbad Dairy area.

The girl was a resident of JJ Colony in the same area and had passed Class X recently.

According to the police, a local informer alerted the beat staff of the murder.

20-year-old Sahil has been apprehended by the police.

The police said the victim and the accused, a fridge-AC mechanic, were in a relationship and had an argument on Saturday. The next day, when the girl was planning to attend a birthday party, Khan intercepted her and stabbed her to death.

According to the victim's father and the CCTV footage time stamp, the incident took place around 8.45 p.m. However, the police got the information only around 9.35 p.m. An officer said the body remained on the street for nearly an hour since no PCR call was made.

"I saw the CCTV footage, I saw my child being killed by the man, and nobody tried to stop him. If only somebody had showed courage, my daughter would have been alive. Our family deserves justice, it could've been anybody's daughter," he told *The Hindu*.

Following a complaint by the victim's father, the police filed an FIR under IPC Section 302 and investigation is under way.

The incident drew sharp political reactions with Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal saying that criminals had no fear of the police. He urged the Lieutenant-Governor to "do something" to set right the law and order situation in the Capital. "A minor girl was brutally murdered in Delhi. This is very sad and unfortunate. The criminals have become fearless, there is no fear of the police. L-G sir, law and order is your responsibility, do something," Mr. Kejriwal said in his tweet in Hindi.

Love jihad, says BJP

In turn, the Delhi BJP said the incident was a case of "love jihad", and hit out at Mr. Kejriwal for trying to portray it as a law and order issue.

"A few months ago, the Aftab-Shraddha case had shocked Delhi, Now, this case has again warned Delhiites to be aware of love jihad. It is regrettable that the Chief Minister is trying to portray the brutal killing of a Hindu girl by Muslim youth as a law and order issue, whereas it is a case of love jihad," said Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva.

'Extremely disturbing'

Terming the incident "extremely disturbing and appalling", the National Commission for Women (NCW) wrote a letter to the Delhi Police Commissioner seeking a time-bound investigation into the incident.

The NCW has formed a three-member team, headed by member Delina Khongdup, to investigate the case. The team will visit the family of the victim as well as the police officials concerned.

Girish Chandra Murmu

CAG voted in as WHO auditor for a second term

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Girish Chandra Murmu, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), has been re-elected as the External Auditor of the World Health Organization (WHO) for a four-year term from 2024 to 2027.

The CAG is already holding this position in the WHO since 2019 for a four-year term from 2019 to 2023.

The re-election was held on Monday in the 76th World Health Assembly in Geneva, where the CAG of India was re-elected with an overwhelming majority (114 out of 156 votes) in the first round of voting itself.

The CAG is a member of the United Nations Panel of External Auditors.

UN peacekeeping mission: India to train women from ASEAN

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

Tailor-made courses to be offered to two candidates from each of the member states

Following Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's proposal last year for an initiative on 'women in United Nations Peacekeeping (UNPK) operations' as part of expanding India-ASEAN (Association of South East Asian Nations) defence cooperation, India is set to conduct two initiatives for women personnel from South East Asia later this year.

March 29 marked the 75th U.N. Peacekeepers Day and India, one of the largest troop contributing nations to the UNPK, currently has around 5,900 troops deployed in 12 U.N. missions. This is the day when in 1948, the first UN peacekeeping mission, "U.N. Truce Supervision Organisation", began operations in Palestine.

"One of the initiatives under the 'India-ASEAN initiative for women in UNPK operations' includes conduct of tailor-made courses for women peacekeepers of ASEAN member-states at the Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping (CUNPK) in India this September.

Model exercise

In all 20 peacekeepers, two from each country would be trained," a defence official said. The other is a 'tabletop exercise' for women officers from ASEAN, incorporating facets of UNPK challenges to be conducted in December, the official stated.

India has contributed 2,75,000 troops to peacekeeping missions so far and 159 Indian Army soldiers have lost their lives across the globe.

Kashmir's 'Sufiyana Mausiki' revives the past

The songs were played during an event in Baramulla to pay tributes to the master weavers of shawls and carpets, and prominent folk singers; the event celebrated the onset of summer

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

The fast fading *Sufiyana Mausiki* and *Tchakri*, devotional folk songs that assumed centrality for carpet and shawl weavers of Kashmir for centuries, were finally replayed with the old-charm setting in a rare bid to "reconnect with the past" at Kunzer area in Baramulla of north Kashmir on Sunday.

To revive the old tradition of celebrating the vibrancy of onset of summers, Mehboob Iqbal Shah, co-founder of the Artisane Art and Cultural Centre, an off-shoot of the 'House of Ali Shah' established in 1860, on Sunday evening organised 'Dastaan-e-Bahaar' to pay tributes to the master weavers of shawls and carpets and prominent folk singers.

Ustad Muhammad Yaqoob Sheikh, a known name in *Sufiyana Mausiki*, and Ghulam Ahmad Kachroo, a well-known *Tchakri* singer, sang soul-stirring poetry and verses in an open-air setting.

Soulful evening: 'Dastaan-e-Bahaar' was organised by Mehboob Iqbal Shah in Baramulla on Sunday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"*Sufiyana* music helps to have peace at heart. This folk music has been granted classical status. It has 180 *mukaams* or stages and, unfortunately, several stages are lost because of decline in the tradition. The *Mukaam-e-Bahaar* is sung at low pitch and just before the sunset," Mr. Sheikh said.

Two well-known artisans – Ghulam Muhammad, a carpet weaver, and Abdul Rasheed, a Kani shawl weaver – threw light on the centrality gained by devotional songs, especially *Sufiyana Mausiki*, among the tribe of artisans from Kashmir for many decades now.

Mr. Shah said Kunzer's Takiya Batapora area had emerged as the centre of learning for the artisans of the entire Baramulla. "In 1970, the area was home to over 100 carpet looms, making it one of the biggest clusters in the district," he added.

He said *Sama*, the musical performance, was organised on the demand of the local artisans who wanted to see the live performances of their folklore icons. He added that people in Kashmir no longer head for the Qamar Sahib's shrine or flock to Badamwaeri for music at the onset of *bahaar* (summer), as used to be a tradition. "This event was to recreate the past and celebrate the onset of summer and its colourful vibrancy," Mr. Shah said.

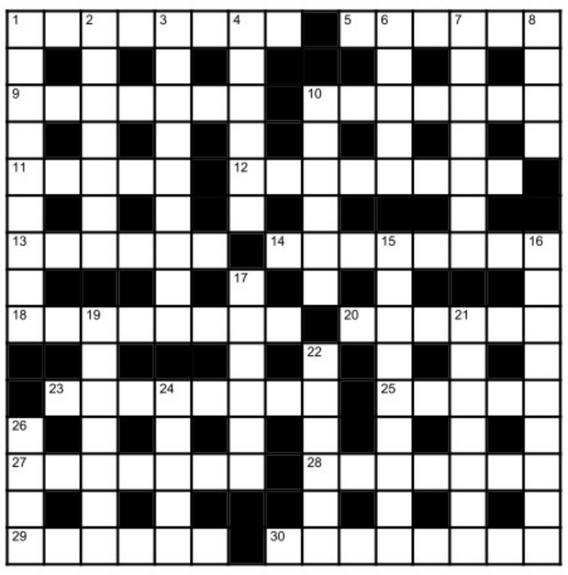
Highlighting the need to revive the past glory, Saleem Beg, former Director-General of Tourism and Convenor of INTACH-Kashmir, said the performances and the setting reflected the tapestry of Kashmir's culture.

TH CROSSWORD + 13878

(set by Gussalufz)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 He, maybe sprinkled salt first, then a bit of pepper just in time (4-4)
5 Sound of wind passing from southern tip of fellow, next to a pair of orbs, quietly (6)
9 Hate Fortran course contents (7)
10 Welcome computer cycles in the greatest lab, up front (3,4)
11 Projection: ex-U.S. president not running (5)
12 Family is caught in deficits — any disbursements under review? (8)
13 Lecture confused Mr. Sen about love (6)
14 Courier perhaps returned letters from inoperative Cafe Pythagoras (8)
18 Might work — he's starting off novel AIs! (8)
20 Grand, completely naked neighbour's sexy without shirt (6)
23 Proposal of monarch bearing love? It's rejected in favour of second Earl (8)
25 Grab rail, no support in vessel! (5)
27 Every now and then, Sheela did jump over small pools of water (7)
28 New and old blending in coastal city's craft (7)
29 Some grammar tyrants persecuted good man (6)
30 Vehicle is back — they finally fixed lube and paint (4,4)

Down

1 They write songs in registers that captivate; I cry, moved (9)
2 Regularly spurn engineer with brighter outlook (7)
3 Good crowd thronged at first, now unfortunately no one is here any more (5,4)
4 Take steps — rubbish lying around in corner (6)
6 Wife makes speech lacking a hint of truth and rambles (5)
7 No car in America features this instrument (7)
8 Devout husband's servile, No. 1! (4)
10 A racket, as they say, is irritating (6)
15 Join forces with dunces, essentially, during extremely, *extremely* desperate situation (9)
16 By cracking cryptic clue, head gets clear (9)
17 Top places for jerks (6)
19 More like a balloon going up or down (7)
21 Very successful top students' list announced (2,1,4)
22 Heart going out for top cop behind clearing mystery (6)
24 Reckless apprentice shadowing Gussalufz in secret (5)
26 One second ... (deleted jerk's unwelcome message) (4)

SUDOKU

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	8		4		6		2	
2		7	9					
1	9							
		8			4		7	
			1	3		5		

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle

Z	E	P	H	Y	R	S	■	M	E	T	H	O	D	S
■	M	■	U	■	E	■	U	■	A	■	O	■	Y	■
I	B	I	S	■	P	U	N	I	S	H	M	E	N	T
■	A	■	K	■	R	■	C	■	I	■	I	■	A	■
A	R	G	Y	L	E	■	O	V	E	R	C	O	M	E
■	G	■	■	■	S	■	M	■	R	■	I	■	I	■
V	O	U	C	H	S	A	F	E	■	E	D	I	C	T
■	■	■	O	■	■	■	O	■	■	■	A	■	■	■
B	E	A	M	S	■	F	R	O	N	T	L	I	N	E
■	X	■	E	■	S	■	T	■	U	■	■	■	O	■
C	H	I	C	K	P	E	A	■	M	A	R	I	N	E
■	A	■	L	■	E	■	B	■	E	■	O	■	S	■
T	U	B	E	R	C	U	L	A	R	■	W	O	K	E
■	S	■	A	■	I	■	E	■	A	■	E	■	I	■
S	T	I	N	K	E	R	■	O	L	D	L	A	D	Y

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

6	9	5	4	7	1	3	8	2
8	7	4	2	3	9	1	5	6
2	1	3	6	8	5	4	7	9
1	3	8	7	9	4	6	2	5
9	5	7	1	2	6	8	3	4
4	6	2	8	5	3	9	1	7
5	2	9	3	6	8	7	4	1
3	4	6	5	1	7	2	9	8
7	8	1	9	4	2	5	6	3

FAITH

Saranagati: simply surrender

"I am depending upon you entirely," is a statement all of us have made, at one time or the other in our lives, to a family member or a friend. However, saints and savants will rarely do, preferring to appeal directly to the Supreme. Ramakrishna Paramahamsa was once startled to see a villager milling rice powder amid tears. A concerned Paramahamsa offered to help him, but the man replied that the rice being ground reminded of high philosophy. "Paramatma, the Supreme, sends us all jivatmas to earth and we all get ground in earthly matters", he said. Ramakrishna Paramahamsa made him lift the grinding stone and pointing to the few rice grains that remained unground under the axle, said, "Do you see the few grains of rice that are close to the axle and still unground? The axle is like God's feet. Cling to it, thinking of Him and surrender to Him, He is waiting to protect you." The act of surrender to God – Saranagati is simple but highly effective; God has said it is His duty to protect those who have surrendered to Him, said Dhamal S Perundevi in a discourse.

How does saranagati work? By following 6 characteristics of Saranagati. These are: doing only what pleases God, like upholding dharma; disassociating oneself from anything that He does not like; thirdly, possessing resolute faith that God is the Protector; fourth, staying steadfast in the belief that God will take care, regardless of the setbacks that are a part of life; next, worship only Him; and lastly, one should have no other thought but that of the Supreme Being. There are numerous examples of those who sought saranagati with full faith: the best being the surrender of Prahlada, Vibhishana, Panchali, Gajendra, and Dhruva.

MADRID

Spain government calls snap election after local ballot losses

AP

Spanish Socialist Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez called a snap national election after left-wing parties were routed in a regional ballot, portraying the defeat as a debilitating vote of no confidence in his coalition government. Sanchez said he felt compelled to "take personal responsibility for the results". REUTERS

MOSCOW

Russia issues arrest warrant for U.S. Senator over Ukraine remarks

AFP

Russia issued an arrest warrant for U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham following his comments related to the fighting in Ukraine. In an edited video of his meeting with the Ukrainian President, Graham said that "the Russians are dying" and described the U.S. military assistance to the country as "the best money we've ever spent." AP

TOKYO

N. Korea alerts Japan about plans to launch satellite in coming days

AP

North Korea notified Japan that it plans to launch a satellite in coming days, which may be an attempt to put Pyongyang's first military reconnaissance satellite into orbit. Defence Minister Yasukazu Hamada ordered Japan's Self Defence Force to shoot down the satellite or debris, if any entered Japanese territory. AP

COLOMBO

ADB approves $350 million in budgetary support to Sri Lanka

AFP

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved a $350 million special policy-based loan to provide budget support to Sri Lanka for its economic stabilisation. The programme is part of a broader package of financial assistance worth $3 billion anchored by the IMF's Extended Fund Facility for the country. PTI

Erdogan calls for unity; rival slams 'most unfair' election

Turkey's re-elected President says, 'now is the time to set aside disputes and unite around our national goals', Kilicdaroglu claims 'all the means of the state were laid at the feet of one man'

Reuters
ISTANBUL

President Tayyip Erdogan and supporters on Monday revelled in an election victory lengthening his rule into a third decade while Turkey's opposition, which once counted on winning, braced for "difficult days" against an increasingly autocratic government.

His rival Kemal Kilicdaroglu said it was "the most unfair election in years" but did not dispute the outcome, which gave Mr. Erdogan a mandate to pursue policies that have polarised Turkey and strengthened its position as a regional military power.

Taste of victory: Supporters of Turkish President wave a flag depicting Recep Tayyip Erdogan in Istanbul on Sunday. AFP

The election had been seen as Mr. Erdogan's biggest political challenge, with the opposition confident of unseating him and reversing his policies after polls showed a cost-of-living crisis left him vulnerable. But he prevailed with 52.2% of the vote to Mr. Kilicdaroglu's 47.8%. It reinforced Mr. Erdogan's image of invincibility in the deeply divided NATO-member country, whose foreign, economic and security policy he has redrawn.

Addressing his supporters, Mr. Erdogan declared democracy the winner. "Now is the time to put the disputes and conflicts of the election period to one side and unite around our national goals," he said. But the prospect of five more years of Mr. Erdogan rule was a blow to an opposition which accused him of undermining democracy. Mr. Kilicdaroglu had promised a new "spring" if he had won.

Mr. Kilicdaroglu said the election outcome showed there was a will among many Turks to remove an authoritarian government, but "all the means of the state were laid at the feet of one man".

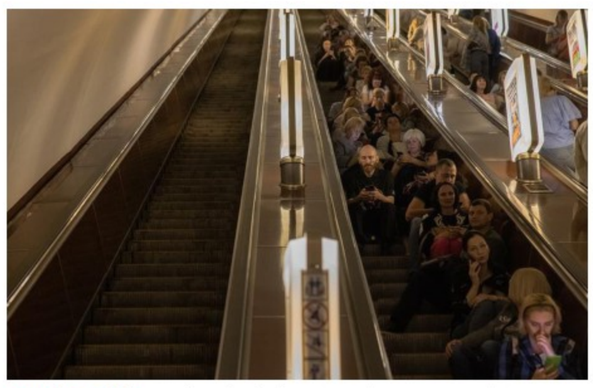
Ukraine claims it shot down 11 Russian ballistic, cruise missiles over Kyiv

Associated Press
KYIV

Explosions rattled Kyiv during daylight on Monday as Russian ballistic missiles took aim at the Ukrainian capital, hours after a more common nighttime barrage of the city by drones and cruise missiles.

Russian forces fired 11 ballistic and cruise missiles at Kyiv at about 11:30 a.m., according to Ukraine's chief of staff, Valerii Zaluzhnyi. All of them were shot down, he said.

Debris from the intercepted missiles fell in Kyiv's central and northern districts during the morning, landing in the middle of traffic on a city road and also starting a fire on a building's roof, the Kyiv military administration said. At least one civilian was reported hurt.



Routine affair: People take shelter in a subway station during a Russian missile attack in Kyiv on Monday. GETTY IMAGES

Russia used Iskander short-range missiles in the morning attack, the spokesman for Ukraine's air force said.

The Russian Defence Ministry said it launched a series of strikes targeting Ukrainian air bases with precision long-range air-launched missiles. The strikes destroyed command posts, radars, aircraft and ammunition stockpiles, it claimed.

Poland's new law to counter Russia could target Oppn.

Associated Press
WARSAW

Polish President Andrzej Duda said on Monday he will sign a Bill that creates a powerful commission, ostensibly meant to investigate Russian influence in Poland but which critics view as a tool to remove from political life the opponents of the ruling party, mostly notably Opposition leader Donald Tusk.

Parliament on Friday approved the law, proposed by the right-wing ruling party, that may affect the outcome of fall parliamentary elections in which the ruling Law and Justice party is seeking a third term.

Experts say it violates Poland's Constitution and the Opposition has called on Mr. Duda to reject it.

President-elect Bola Tinubu vows to unite and secure Nigeria

Agence France-Presse
ABUJA

Nigeria's new President Bola Tinubu, sworn in on Monday, has promised to unite Africa's most populous nation and tackle insecurity as "top priority".

The 71-year-old succeeds former Army General Muhammadu Buhari of the same party, who stepped down after two terms in office, leaving a country facing a sea of economic troubles and security challenges.

Foreign leaders and representatives present at the swearing in ceremony included presidents Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa, Paul Kagame of Rwanda and Nana Akufo-Addo of Ghana as well as delegations from the U.S., Britain and China.

Bola Tinubu

Kashim Shettima was sworn in as Vice President.

The ruling party duo and were declared winners of a February 25 election, gaining the highest number of votes across two-thirds of Nigeria's states. But Mr. Tinubu only garnered just over a third of the total vote, leaving him with a weak mandate.

Opposition leaders are contesting results in court, claiming fraud.

New anti-LGBTQ law in Uganda imposes capital punishment

Reuters
KAMPALA

Activists term the President's move state-sponsored homophobia and transphobia

Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni has signed one of the world's harshest anti-LGBTQ laws, including the death penalty for "aggravated homosexuality", in defiance of Western condemnations and potential sanctions from aid donors.

Same-sex relations were already illegal in Uganda, as they are in more than 30 African countries, but the new law further targets lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people.

It imposes capital punishment for some behaviour including having gay sex when HIV-positive, and stipulates a 20-year sentence for "promoting" homosexuality.

"The Ugandan President has today legalised state-sponsored homophobia and transphobia," said Clare Byarugaba, a Ugandan rights activist.

She and other activists have vowed a legal challenge to the law. The 78-year-old Museveni has called homosexuality a "deviation from normal."

U.S. President Joe Biden slammed the draconian law and called for the immediate repeal of the tough new measures. "The enactment of Uganda's Anti-Homosexuality Act is a tragic violation of universal human rights," Mr. Biden said in a statement.

Your feedback will keep us Cleaner, Sharper and Bolder

Call our toll-free number
1800 102 1878
Or write to us at
customercare@thehindu.co.in

Scan the QR code to register your feedback

THE HINDU businessline.
FRONTLINE SPORTSTAR Young World THE HINDU

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Senior Assistant Director, Education,
Head Office, BBMP, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002.
Ph: 080-22975728, E-mail: eoeducation@yahoo.in

No: BBMP/2023-24/IND0005 Date: 29-05-2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike invites tender for the Supply of 1) Computers to BBMP Schools and Colleges (CALL-2). 2) Computer Lab Table and Chairs for the BBMP Schools and Colleges (CALL-2) from eligible bidders.

1) Tender for the Supply of Computer to BBMP Schools and Colleges (Call-2), Tender Reference No: BBMP/2023-24/IND0005

2) Tender for the Supply of Computer Lab Table and Chair to BBMP Schools and Colleges (Call-2), Tender Reference No: BBMP/2023-24/IND0006.

1) Date of Commencement of Download of Document from e-Procurement Website: **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 29-05-2023. 2)** Last Date and Time for Uploading Online Queries in e-Procurement: **01-06-2023, 5.00 PM. 3)** Date and Time of Pre-Bid Meeting: **01-06-2023 at 11.00 AM at the Office of the Senior Assistant Director, Education, Head Office, BBMP, Bengaluru. 4)** Last Date and Time for Uploading of Tender in e-Procurement Portal: **28-06-2023, 5.00 PM. 5)** Date and Time of Online Opening of Technical Bids: **30-06-2023, 11.00 AM. 6)** Address for Communication: **Office of the Senior Assistant Director, BBMP, Bengaluru. Ph: 080-22112585 /22975824/22975728, E-mail: eoeducation@yahoo.in.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director, BBMP.

TUNGABHADRA BOARD: TB DAM
e-Procurement Short Term Tender Notice
IFB Nos.07/2023-24 to 42/2023-24 Dt.29.05.2023

Tender for total **36 Nos. of Works** in respect of HW & HLC Division, TB Dam and LLC Division, Ballari under works categories are invited through `e-Procurement'.

Bid Document downloading Start Date & Time:	**30.05.2023 at 11:00 AM**
Bid Document downloading End Date & Time :	**06.06.2023 at 3:00 PM**
Bid Submission End Date & Time :	**06.06.2023 at 5:30 PM**
Date of opening of Commercial Stage: (IFB No.07/2023-24 to 36/2023-24)	**06.06.2023 at 6.00 PM**
Date of opening of TQ Stage (IFB No.37/2023-24 to 42/2023-24)	**06.06.2023 at 6.00 PM**
Date of opening of Commercial Stage: (IFB No.37/2023-24 to 42/2023-24)	**08.06.2023 at 11.00 AM**

Further details can be seen @
https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in

Ph: 08394 – 259114
Fax 08394 - 259167

Sd/- **Superintending Engineer**
I.B, TB Board, TB Dam

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Office of the Executive Engineer, Bangalore South Division,
Amruth Nagara, Konankunte Main Road,
Soudamini Layout, Bangalore-62.

No: EE/BSD/Tender(Corrigendum)/01/2023-24 Date: 29.05.2023

Corrigendum Tender Notification

Sub: Regarding Corrigendum Tender Notification of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Bommanahalli Zone, Bengaluru South Division Jurisdiction for Grants of Works under title p-3726.

Reference: Tender Notification No: BBMP/EE/BSD/Tend-01/2023-24 Dt: 19.05.2023.

With reference to the above subject the tender invited through e-procurement of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Bommanahalli Zone, Bengaluru South Division Jurisdiction for Grants of Works sanctioned for the year 2023-24, the Calendar of events details are as under due to technical reasons.

Calendar of events: 1) Last Date for uploading the Filled Tender Document is 06.06.2023 upto 4.00 p.m. 2) Date of Technical bid opening of Tenders is on 07.06.2023 by 4.30 p.m.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Bangalore South Division

China prepares to send its first civilian into space today

Agence France-Presse
JIUQUAN

China will send its first civilian astronaut into space as part of a crewed mission to the Tiangong space station on Tuesday.

Until now, all Chinese astronauts sent into space have been part of the People's Liberation Army.

Gui Haichao is a professor at Beijing's Beihang University, and will manage scientific experiments on the station during the mission, China Manned Space Agency spokesperson Lin Xiqiang said.

His mission will "carry out large-scale, in-orbit experiments... in the study of novel quantum phenomena, high-precision space time-frequency systems, the verification of general relativity, and the origin of life," Mr. Lin said.

TAMIL NADU URBAN HABITAT DEVELOPMENT BOARD
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
WEST CIRCLE – COIMBATORE

NOTICE INVITING E- TENDER

1) **Name of the work:** Construction of 125 tenements adopting type design No. HFA-59A/2022 (G+5 Storied) including internal water supply, sanitary and electrification arrangements with development works at Kolanthakoundanur in Karur Corporation under Housing for All-AHP.

(TENDER REFERENCE No. TNUHDB/623/DB/2022)

The Superintending Engineer, West Circle Coimbatore on behalf of Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board invites submission of online bids from eligible bidders for the contract package named above. Bids are invited under two cover system to be uploaded in the online web portal **https://tntenders.gov.in**

Detailed Notice of Invitation of Bids and the Pre-Qualification Criteria and the Bid document for the above package would be available at **https://tntenders.gov.in** starting from **30.05.2023** Deadline of bid submission is upto **12.00 P.M.** on **29.06.2023.** All required information are provided in the bid document.

Bidders may contact **Superintending Engineer, West Circle Coimbatore,** and TNUHDB through **Email: tnuhdbcbecircle@gmail.com** for any other information on bidding process.

Superintending Engineer
West Circle Coimbatore

DIPR/ 2768 /TENDER/2023

" சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Auction for leasing of Parcel Space, Parking & Out of home advertisement / Publicity

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites bidders for E-Auctions on the following Dates.

1) Parcel SLR and VPH leasing on : 05-06-2023, 12-06-2023, 19-06-2023 & 26-06-2023
2) Parking, Pay & Use contracts on : 01-06-2023, 08-06-2023, 09-06-2023 & 16-06-2023
3) Advertising and ATM contracts on : 06-06-2023, 07-06-2023, 09-06-2023, 13-06-2023, 14-06-2023, 21-06-2023, 20-06-2023, 27-06-2023 & 30-06-2023
4) Catering : 01-06-2023, 08-06-2023, 15-06-2023 & 22-06-2023
5) Coach Restaurant & MISC contracts : 15-06-2023, 23-06-2023 & 28-06-2023

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager
PUB/123/AAS/PRB/SWR/2023-24 **Bengaluru**
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

Government of Maharashtra
Public Works Department P.W. Division, Panvel
Telephone No. 022-27452778
E-Tender Notice No. 39 (Open ONLINE) Year-2023-24
E-mail address:- panvel.ee@mahapwd.gov.in Fax Number :-022-27467440

Executive Engineer P.W. Division Panvel invite B-1 Tender From Registered Contractor with Govt. of Maharashtra Detail Tender Notice Available On **www.mahapwd.gov.in and www.mahatenders.gov.in** Portal.

Note :-Total 13 Work include in Tender notice.

Online Tender Download & Bid Preparation Period Date 30.05.2023 At 10.00 AM To Date 06.06.2023 18.00 PM.

Online Tender Bid Preparation Last Date 06.06.2023 at 18.00 AM.

E-Tender/O.No./P.W./PNL/
Office of the Executive Engineer, Public work Division, Panvel.
Dist. Raigad
Date -

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
P.W.Division Panvel

DGIPR/2023/2024/1033

INBRIEF

'Solar capacity addition slid 48% to 1.9 GW in Jan.-March'

Solar capacity addition in India slid 48% y-o-y to 1.9 GW in January-March, according to Mercom India Research. The country had added 3.6 gigawatt (GW) of solar capacity during the same period in 2022, the research firm said in its latest report. In 2023, the addition is expected to be lower as commissioning deadlines for several projects have been moved to next year. Besides, a number of projects are facing delays due to land and transmission issues, Mercom India added. PTI

Sundaram Finance Q4 net rises 6%, declares ₹15 dividend

Sundaram Finance Ltd. reported standalone net profit for the fourth-quarter ended March grew 6% year-on-year to ₹316 crore on better asset quality and tight cost control. Revenue from operations rose 12% to ₹1,035 crore. Gross and net NPAs stood at 3% and 2.10% respectively as on March 31, 2023 against 2.42% and 1.26% (based on old norms) as on March 31, 2022. The board has declared a final dividend of ₹15 per share, according to a statement.

Repco Home Finance Q4 net almost doubles to ₹82 crore

Repco Home Finance Ltd. reported standalone net profit for the March-ended quarter rose 95% year-on-year to ₹82 crore. Net interest income grew by 3% to ₹155 crore while total revenue from operations increased by 7% to ₹340 crore. Gross non-performing assets declined to ₹719 crore as on March 31, 2023, from ₹820 crore as on March 31, 2022, while net NPAs slid to ₹362 crore (₹559 crore). It declared a dividend of ₹2.70 per share.

January-April imports from China rise 4.6% to $37.86 bn

Two-way trade climbs 4.5% to reach $44.34 billion at the end of April, data from China's General Administration of Customs shows; India's exports to China increase by 3.7% but share stays small

Ananth Krishnan

India's imports of Chinese goods continued to rise in 2023, growing 4.6% in the first four months to $37.86 billion.

Two-way trade climbed 4.5% year-on-year to $44.34 billion at the end of April, data from China's General Administration of Customs showed. India's exports to China also rose by 3.7%, but still accounted for a smaller share of the bilateral trade.

In 2022, trade with China hit a record $135.98 billion, driven by a 21% rise in imports. The trade deficit crossed $100 billion for the first time last year.

Analysts said the continuing increase in imports of Chinese goods highlight a rise in demand for intermediates required by Indian industry, as well as continued reliance on sourcing from China, a matter of concern for New Delhi amid frayed political ties.

In recent years, India's biggest imports from China have included active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs), chemicals, electrical and mechanical machinery, auto components, and medical supplies.

Trade with the EU and the United States, China's second- and third-biggest trading partners that have both been highlighting the need to "de-risk" supply from China, however, showed declines.

While trade with the EU slid 3.5% to $262.53 billion, that with the U.S. contracted 11.2% to $217.92 billion.

Import appetite

Imports of Chinese goods continued to rise in the January-April period, reflecting a continued reliance on sourcing from China

- In 2022, bilateral trade hit a record $135.98 billion, driven by a 21% rise in imports
- India's biggest imports from China have included APIs, electrical and mechanical machinery and auto parts
- Over the same period, trade with the EU slid 3.5%, and that with the U.S. shrank 11.2%

ONGC's FY24 capex dips marginally to ₹30,125 crore

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd (ONGC) has announced a capital expenditure plan of ₹30,125 crore for FY24 as compared with ₹30,208 crore in the previous year and the plan would be fully-funded through internal accruals, its chairman & MD Arun Kumar Singh said.

"The capex is to sustain and grow. Cashflow-wise ONGC has no problem," Mr Singh said.

Arun Kumar Singh

The company also announced that it would invest ₹1,00,000 crore towards energy conversion into solar in the coming year. It wants to have 10GW of renewable capacity by 2030, Mr. Singh said.

He also said that the company would expand its petrochemicals capacity at its MRPL unit and also at its refinery in Bhopal.

Higher output

Mr. Singh said the company would ramp up production this year as there was a 5% decline in crude production in FY23.

The company will search for more crude and gas from new fields in India as the government has opened up 1 million sq kms of area which was earlier deemed no-go due to security concerns.

Less than $100 mn stuck in Russia, says ONGC Videsh

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

India's flagship overseas firm ONGC Videsh has less than $100 million of dividend income lying in Russia because of Ukraine conflict but the company is not in a hurry to bring it back, a senior official said.

"We are not in a hurry to get it back as the company has capital and operating expenses for the three projects in Russia," said MD Rajarshi Gupta.

Directors should keep vigil on bank CEOs: RBI Governor

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das has asked bank directors to be more assertive and keep a sharp vigil on bank managements' actions, particularly on actual and potential related-party transactions, and stressed that the dominance of CEOs in some banks' board meetings is undesirable.

Addressing around 200 directors of private sector banks on Monday, Mr. Das stressed that there is no room for complacency despite banks' improved financial metrics and urged them to keep depositors' interests uppermost in their mind. Despite several corporate governance guidelines issued by the RBI, Mr. Das said, "gaps in governance" have been noticed in certain banks.

Stressing that 'independent' directors must be "truly independent" of the management as well as controlling shareholders, the Governor said they are expected to ask "pertinent questions" and obtain necessary information before taking decisions.

"At times, however, we have noticed the dominance of CEOs in Board discussions and decision making," the RBI Governor cautioned.

He, however, added a caveat that this should not lead to a situation where the CEO is "inhibited from doing his duties".

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	MONDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	62,846	0.55
US Dollar	82.63	-0.04
Gold	59,965	-0.19
Brent oil	76.67	----

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2534.05	-10.30
Adani Ports	737.50	10.65
Apollo Hosp	4640.45	30.55
Asian Paints	3137.40	9.00
Axis Bank	929.80	2.85
Bajaj Auto	4618.50	2.55
Bajaj Finserv	1449.55	10.40
Bajaj Finance	6932.05	27.55
Bharti Airtel	821.25	3.30
BPCL	361.70	-2.60
Britannia Ind	4575.25	-20.95
Cipla	956.25	4.90
Coal India	246.10	4.60
Divis Lab	3477.85	-36.15
Dr Reddys Lab	4556.25	25.30
Eicher Motors	3711.45	21.10
Grasim Ind	1713.30	25.00
HCL Tech	1126.20	-13.00
HDFC	2690.55	39.95
HDFC Bank	1635.50	19.70
HDFC Life	579.05	1.85
Hero MotoCorp	2776.90	31.75
Hindalco	419.90	6.35
Hind Unilever	2650.30	-2.05
ICICI Bank	948.15	-2.55
IndusInd Bank	1284.95	16.90
Infosys	1314.40	-3.05
ITC	449.10	5.50
JSW Steel	702.20	0.50
Kotak Bank	1953.20	8.15
L&T	2224.55	6.10
M&M	1330.15	48.30
Maruti Suzuki	9333.50	-66.45
NestleIndia	21729.45	147.70
NTPC	176.30	1.80
ONGC	159.00	-4.75
PowerGrid Corp	234.50	-2.80
Reliance Ind	2520.60	14.10
SBI Life	1218.10	22.35
State Bank	595.00	9.00
Sun Pharma	968.45	-1.45
TataConsumerProduct	794.25	4.55
Tata Motors	521.45	3.00
Tata Steel	108.45	2.05
TCS	3320.35	-8.55
Tech Mahindra	1114.05	-0.70
Titan	2812.25	70.10
UltraTech Cement	7840.55	118.70
UPL	690.00	1.90
Wipro	399.80	-1.90

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on May 29

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	82.43	82.75
Euro	88.31	88.65
British Pound	101.74	102.14
Japanese Yen (100)	58.80	59.03
Chinese Yuan	11.65	11.70
Swiss Franc	91.23	91.59
Singapore Dollar	60.91	61.15
Canadian Dollar	60.57	60.80
Malaysian Ringitt	17.90	17.98
Australian Dollar	53.91	54.12

Source:Indian Bank

'ITC expects volumes to rise as inflation cools'

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

ITC Ltd. expects volume growth to pick up towards the later part of this year as inflation eases, Chairman and Managing Director Sanjiv Puri said on Monday.

"As a company we had a decent amount of volume growth last year," Mr. Puri said during an interaction with journalists from *businessline* and *The Hindu*. "In terms of rural demand there is certainly some silver lining. I think this year the growth will be more volume-led than price-led," he added.

Mr. Puri said the Indian economy was holding on quite well when compared with what was happening in the rest of the world.

Sanjiv Puri

The only thing as far as India was concerned to watch out for was anything that was directly indexed to global demand like steel, and in ITC's case - paperboards, he observed.

Mr. Puri said the company would continue to play in the cigarettes business in a responsible way, even as it continued to diversify and grow its FMCG and hotels businesses.

'The company would continue to play in the cigarettes business in a responsible way'

ITC's overall EBITDA had improved by 26% last year, according to its CMD, who added that the non-cigarette segment's EBITDA had improved by 43%. As a result, the share of the non-cigarette segment in overall EBITDA had climbed to 27%, from 18% three years earlier, he pointed out.

Mr. Puri said as a part of the 'ITC Next' strategy, the company had identified digital and sustainability as megatrends and would continue to explore opportunities in those lines by leveraging its institutional strengths.

Demerger on the cards

He said that the company's plan to demerge its hotels business, which had been put on hold due to the pandemic, was likely to be revived this year and taken forward in line with the industry recovery.

Mr. Puri reiterated that the company would adopt an asset-light strategy for expansion in the hotels business.

Also, while a spin-off of the Infotech business was a possibility, he said the timing would be the crucial element in the decision as it had to be done at the right time.

On the FMCG business, Mr. Puri said the company had grown its revenue to ₹20,000 crore, from ₹10,000 crore in 2017.

"We have grown the FMCG business in an efficient manner and I am proud of the scale," Mr. Puri said.

"The ₹1 lakh crore revenue target by 2030 was an aspirational one. It will happen, the date will get shifted," he added.

'AI has moved from its taxi phase, now in take-off mode'

Murali N. Krishnaswamy
CHENNAI

Air India has moved from its 'taxi' phase and is now in 'take-off' mode, the second phase of a comprehensive five-year transformation plan, said CEO and MD Campbell Wilson.

"I think southern India, and Chennai, in particular, is not well served by Air India... that is really regrettable and something we certainly want to fix," Mr. Wilson said in an interview. "Why hasn't it been done before? The answer is an absence of aircraft... and that is partly why the 470-aircraft purchase plan was committed," he said.

Campbell Wilson

In September 2022, AI unveiled its transformation plan, Vihaan.AI. The first phase, which was completed in March, saw enhancements for the passenger, staff training programmes, improved operations and new destinations, growth in revenue and revenue per available seat kilometre, operations, and also a re-engagement with the global aviation industry. "I think the progress that we have made in phase one has set a good foundation for the subsequent transformation," Mr. Wilson said.

"We have put in a lot of work in the last one year, and I hope people get a sense that we are setting our sights high both in terms of scale, but particularly in terms of quality," Mr. Wilson added.

(*Full interview bit.ly/AirIndiaCEOInt*)

Sport

Alcaraz, Djokovic advance with straight-set wins

FRENCH OPEN

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

World No. 1 Carlos Alcaraz got his French Open campaign underway with a straight-set win over Italian qualifier Flavio Cobolli on Monday.

The 20-year-old, the youngest top seed at Roland Garros since Bjorn Borg in 1976, swept to a 6-0, 6-2, 7-5 win over his 159th-ranked opponent.

Earlier, Novak Djokovic started his bid for a men's record 23rd Grand Slam singles title with a 6-3, 6-2, 7-6(1) win over American Aleksandar Kovacevic.

One break in the sixth game was enough for the Serbian star to take the opening set, before he raced through the second.

Off the mark: Djokovic started his quest for a record-breaking 23rd Major crown with a facile win. REUTERS

Djokovic broke to love to start the third set before saving three break points in the second game. Kovacevic did break for the first time in the match to level the set at 3-3, only to drop serve again immediately.

Djokovic uncharacteristically stumbled when serving for the match as Kovacevic forced a tie-break to the delight of the crowd. But the World No. 3 quickly regrouped and dominated the breaker to end Kovacevic's resistance.

Canadian 10th seed Felix Auger-Aliassime suffered a third defeat at the opening hurdle in four visits to Roland Garros, losing 6-4, 6-4, 6-3 to Fabio Fognini. British 14th seed Cameron Norrie came through a five-set thriller against Benoit Paire 7-5, 4-6, 3-6, 6-1, 6-4.

In the women's draw, former runner-up Sloane Stephens dumped out 16th seed Karolina Pliskova 6-0, 6-4. Russian Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, the losing finalist in 2021, brushed aside Czech teenager Linda Fruhvirtova 6-2, 6-2.

IMPORTANT RESULTS

First round: Men:
26-Shapovalov (Can) bt Nakashima (USA) 6-4, 7-5, 4-6, 3-6, 6-3; 14-Norrie (GBr) bt Paire (Fra) 7-5, 4-6, 3-6, 6-1, 6-4; Schwartzman (Arg) bt 32-Miralles (Esp) 1-6, 6-7(5), 6-2, 6-0, 6-4; 19-Bautista Agut (Esp) bt Wu (Chn) 7-6(4), 6-1, 6-1; 18-de Minaur (Aus) bt Ivashka 6-1, 5-7, 6-1, 6-3; Fognini (Ita) bt 10-Auger-Aliassime (Can) 6-4, 6-4, 6-3; 3-Djokovic (Srb) bt Kovacevic (USA) 6-3, 6-2, 7-6(1); Wawrinka (Sui) bt Ramos-Vinolas (Esp) 7-6(5), 6-4, 6-7(2), 1-6, 6-4; Tirante (Arg) bt 25-van de Zandschulp (Ned) 6-2, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4; 1-Alcaraz (Esp) bt Cobolli (Ita) 6-0, 6-2, 7-5. Sonego (Ita) bt 30-Shelton (USA) 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, 6-3.
Women: 20-Keys (USA) bt Kanepi (Est) 6-1, 3-6, 6-1; 22-Vekic (Cro) bt Yastremska (Ukr) 6-2, 7-5; Stephens (USA) bt 16-Pliskova (Cze) 6-0, 6-4.
27-Begu (Rou) bt Bondar (Hun) 6-4, 6-2; 15-Samsonova bt Volynets (USA) 6-0, 6-1; 3-Pegula (USA) bt Collins (USA) 6-4, 6-2; 9-Kasatkina bt Niemeier (Ger) 6-3, 6-4.

Triple jumper Selva Prabhu breaks National junior record

ATHLETICS ROUND-UP

Sports Bureau

Triple jumper T. Selva Prabhu broke Arpinder Singh's 12-year-old National junior record while winning gold at the Venizelia-Chania international meet, a World Athletics Continental Tour-Bronze event, at Chania on Sunday.

The 18-year-old produced a personal best 16.78m (Arpinder's OR 16.63, 2011) which carried him to the second rung in this year's u-20 world list.

Sable 10th in Rabat

National record-holder Avinash Sable finished 10th in the 3000m steeplechase in the Diamond League in Rabat on Sunday in 8:17.18s.

New mark: Prabhu came up with a 16.78m effort on way to gold.

Amlan clocks 10.55

In the Netherlands, Amlan Borgohain timed 10.55s in the men's 100m heats at the T-Meeting in Tilburg on Monday and qualified for the final. Jyothi Yarraji also made the final after clocking 11.76s in the 100m heats. However, both did not run the final. P. Muhammed Afsal was third overall after the men's 400m heats with 48.43s.

National 1500m record-holder Harmilan Bains was second in the women's 800m 'B' final with 2.04.36s in British Milers Club GP in Manchester.

Sai Sudharsan's onslaught takes Titans to highest total in IPL final

The No. 3 batter seizes the spotlight to slam a terrific 47-ball 96; Hardik's cameo lifts the team's tally to 214 after Saha and Gill set the early pace

IPL-16

N. Sudarshan
AHMEDABAD

Sai Sudharsan's terrific 96 (47b, 8x4, 6x6) propelled defending champion Gujarat Titans to a mammoth 214 for four against Chennai Super Kings in the Indian Premier League final at the Narendra Modi Stadium here on Monday.

The score was the highest any team had made in an IPL final. CSK, though, was left to chase a reduced 171-run target in 15 overs after a 20-minute shower three balls into its reply left the turf unplayable for nearly 2 hours and 30 minutes.

Two practise pitches at the extreme ends of the main 22-yard strip were mangled because the covers couldn't be brought on in time. CSK was 58 for no loss in five overs with Ruturaj Gaikwad on 24 (13b, 3x4, 1x6) and Devon Conway 31 (17b, 4x4, 1x6).

Cometh the man! Sai Sudharsan's scintillating knock was marked by audacious strokeplay and adroit placement. K.R. DEEPAK

Carving a niche

Earlier in the evening, all eyes were on Indian cricket's crown prince Shubman Gill, who seemed set to own one of the game's biggest stages. But Tamil Nadu batter Sai Sudharsan, who was bought by GT in the February 2022 auction at his base price of ₹20 lakh, ended up carving a niche for himself.

Coming in at the fall of Gill (67/1, eighth over) Sai Sudharsan's was a superbly paced knock. His first 20 runs took as many as 17 balls, watchful as he was when Ravindra Jadeja and Maheesh Theekshana bowled stifling lines (overs 7-10, 24 runs).

But from the next 30 deliveries, he scored 76 golden runs to make his highest IPL score, in his 13th match.

GT, after being asked to bat, had a fine PowerPlay, with Wriddhiman Saha (54, 39b, 5x4, 1x6) and Gill (39, 20b, 7x4) combining to score 62 runs. CSK didn't help itself, fluffing as many as three chances including a sitter by Deepak Chahar at square-leg when Gill was on three.

And the batter capitalised, looking resplendent for as long as he was in the middle. The 23-year-old hit Tushar Deshpande and Theekshana for a hat-trick of fours each, but his best shot came off Chahar, a trademark half-cut when barely allowed any room.

Working magic

But in the seventh over, Jadeja worked his magic, drawing Gill out of the crease and having him stumped. That brought Sai Sudharsan to the middle, and after a few overs' recce, he made the play.

He steered Matheesha Pathirana to the off-side boundary twice to get going, before smashing Jadeja and Theekshana for three sixes in the mid-wicket region. The half-century (32b) came with a four behind point off Pathirana.

In the 17th over, Deshpande (4-0-56-0) was sent on a leather hunt. Sai Sudharsan lined up for a scoop, but the ball sailed over Dhoni for a six via a leading edge.

The 21-year-old, who oozes orthodoxy, perhaps felt corrupted and came up with three sublime drives to the fence – down the ground, through cover and extra-cover.

And when Sai Sudharsan launched Pathirana (4-0-44-0) for back-to-back sixes at the start of the 20th – over extra-cover and a slog-sweep over long-on – a century seemed imminent, only for a yorker-length ball to trap him in front.

SCOREBOARD

GUJARAT TITANS

Wriddhiman Saha c Dhoni b Deepak Chahar 54 *(39b, 5x4, 1x6)*, Shubman Gill st. Dhoni b Jadeja 39 *(20b, 7x4)*, B. Sai Sudharsan lbw b Pathirana 96 *(47b, 8x4, 6x6)*, Hardik Pandya (not out) 21 *(12b, 2x6)*, Rashid Khan c Ruturaj b Pathirana 0 *(2b)*; Extras (b-1, lb-1, w-2): 4; Total (for four wkts. in 20 overs): 214.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-67 (Gill, 6.6 overs), 2-131 (Saha, 13.6), 3-212 (Sudharsan, 19.3), 4-214 (Rashid, 19.6).

SUPER KINGS BOWLING

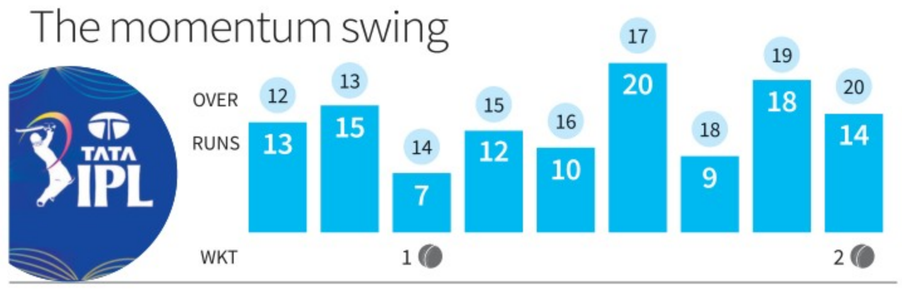
Deepak Chahar 4-0-38-1, Deshpande 4-0-56-0, Theekshana 4-0-36-0, Jadeja 4-0-38-1, Pathirana 4-0-44-2.

Toss: CSK.

Super Kings 112/2 in 10 overs

Dube (8) and Rahane (26) were at the crease as Dhoni's men reached 112 for two in 10 overs at the time of going to press. Ruturaj (26) and Conway (47) were the batters dismissed. Noor Ahmad took both wickets

The momentum swing



Dhoni becomes first Indian with 300 dismissals in T20s

That's 300! Dhoni's stumping of Gill helped him reach the landmark. K.R. DEEPAK

Sports Bureau

Chennai Super Kings captain MS Dhoni became the first Indian to record 300 dismissals in T20 cricket, during the IPL 2023 final against Gujarat Titans on Monday.

He stumped GT opener Shubman Gill off Ravindra Jadeja's bowling, marking the chief dismissal, further extended his tally with the catch of Wriddhiman Saha.

Dhoni stands in the forefront in T20s with 296 dismissals. Besides stumpings and catches with the gloves, Dhoni has also managed five dismissals (catches) as a non-'keeper in his 377-match career.

The captain cool also leads the wicketkeeping charts in the IPL with 180 dismissals in 243 innings, with 138 catches and 42 stumpings.

Dhoni is also the first player who has played 250 IPL matches, having captained 226 of them.

'Final' day spectacle

Some sidelights: Rain stayed away, but only till the break after the first innings; the fans at the stadium were treated to an eye-catching fireworks show; Dhoni led Super Kings to the ground for a 10th time in an IPL final. K.R. DEEPAK & VIJAY SONEJI

EMULATING WATSON

Saha is second player to score 100 and 50 in final

VIJAY SONEJI

Wriddhiman Saha becomes the second player, after Shane Watson (117* vs SRH in 2018; 80 vs MI in 2019), to score a century and a fifty in different IPL final outings. Saha notched up a hundred against KKR in 2014 and made a fifty in last night's clash versus CSK.

ALL GUNS BLAZING

Titans race to a new high in an IPL summit clash

VIJAY SONEJI

Gujarat Titans broke the record for the highest team total in an IPL final by posting 214/4 against Chennai Super Kings. Titans went past Sunrisers Hyderabad who posted 208/7 in 2016. Four other teams have crossed the 200 run mark in a final - CSK, MI, KKR and RCB.

NUMBER THREE

Sai Sudharsan's 96 is the third best in an IPL final

VIJAY SONEJI

GT batter Sai Sudharsan ranked third in high scores in an IPL final behind Shane Watson and Wriddhiman Saha after his 96 against CSK on Monday. Watson (117 n.o., CSK vs. SRH, 2018) and Saha (115, PBKS vs. Kolkata Knight Riders, 2014) are the only batters to score hundreds.

PURPLE PATCH

Gill goes past Buttler, finishes with 890 runs in IPL 2023

K.R DEEPAK

Shubman Gill, with a tally of 890 runs this season, bettered Jos Buttler's 2022 record when the English batter piled up 863 runs. Only Virat Kohli is higher in the list with a record 973 runs in 2016. Kohli and Buttler are tied for the top spot with four centuries each. Gill made three in 2023.

YELLOW FEVER

Nowhere else will you see this type of fan support: Moeen

K.R. DEEPAK

Chennai Super Kings all-rounder Moeen Ali commented on the enthusiasm displayed by the fans. "Nowhere in the world will you see this type of fan support. Proud to play for the best franchise in the IPL," said Moeen Ali said on Instagram as he shared a video of supporters cheering the team.

INBRIEF

India bests Kazakhstan to clinch volleyball gold

India defeated Kazakhstan 25-15, 25-22, 25-18 in the final to clinch gold in the Central Asian Volleyball Associations (CAVA) Volleyball Challenge Cup for Women in Kathmandu on Sunday. The team was led by Nirmal Tanwar.

Neeraj has a muscle strain, pulls out of FBK Games

Neeraj Chopra on Monday said he has suffered a muscle strain and was pulling out of next month's FBK Games.

"Recently, I sustained a muscle strain during my training. Following a medical evaluation, me and my team have decided to avoid any risks," he wrote on Twitter. "It means that I have to withdraw from the FBK Games, in Hengelo."

India thumps Thailand, enters Asia Cup hockey semifinal

Defending champion India moved into the semifinals of the men's junior Asia Cup hockey with a 17-0 win over Thailand in its last Pool-A match in Salalah, Oman on Sunday. India now has 10 points.

The result: India 17 (Angad Bir Singh 13, 33, 47, 55, Yogember Rawat 17, Uttam Singh 24, 31, Amandeep Lakra 26, 29, Araijeet Singh Hundal 36, Vishnukant Singh 38, Bobby Singh Dhami 45, Sharda Nand Tiwari 46, Amandeep 47, Rohit 49, Sunit Lakra 54, Rajinder Singh 56) bt Thailand 0.

LIVE TELECAST

NBA: MTV, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 6 a.m.

Roland Garros: Sony Sports Ten 2, 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 2.30 p.m. onwards

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Max Muller enters the final

L. Nitish Arya (61) helped Max Muller defeat Six Cricket Academy in the semifinals of Tiger Cup under-16 tournament at Rajarajeshwari Medical College grounds here.

The score (semifinals):

Max Muller 147 in 26.2 overs (L. Nitish Arya 61, K.P. Ahan 3/11, Bhuvan Basidoni 3/27) bt Six Cricket Academy 128/9 in 30 overs (Eashan 39).

Silicon Cricket Academy 190/5 in 30 overs (M.P. Shashank 60, M. Shivu 44, Manish Pandya 26) bt Kreeda Kshetra 181 in 29.3 overs (Ronel 54, K. Ashwath 39, Aadil 27).

George's effort in vain

George's 28 points went in vain as Bangalore Sporting defeated Chikkamagalur BC 59-48 in the State 'C' men's basketball division league championship here.

The results: DRDO 64 (Sylvester 25) bt YCBC Bellary 29 (Mahesh 21); Appaiah BC 78 (Suchir 22, Pradyumn 18) bt YCSC Mysore 38 (Avinash 10); Mavericks BC Mysore 41 (Sagar Srinivas 12, Vishal Bhyrava 11) bt Kanaka BC Kolar 39 (Tarun 19, Shivu 12); Dir M V Diamond BC Chikkaballapur 49 (Varun 15, Afros 14) bt Protec Challengers Mysore 45 (Vikas 14, Karthik 12); Bangalore Sporting 59 (Narain 18, Jayanth 18) bt Chikkamagalur BC 48 (George 28, Ashutosh 18); BCYA 46 (Sunny 11) bt Union BC Dharwad 31 (Anirudh 14); Orion SC 66 (Ayush Devaiah 15, T. Nikhil 11) bt Devangere BC 47 (Vishnu 18, Darshan 14); Aryans BC Mysore 51 (Viji 14, Vijay 11) bt Kaiga BC Karwar 43 (Ashray 19); VBC Mandya 82 (Raghavendra 26, Shashank Raj 19) bt Marians SC Chikkamagalur 70 (Raju 27, Darshan 13); Hebbal BC 53 (Chetan 16, Suhas 10) bt Cincinatics BC 48 (Anil Babu 19); MCHS 69 (Boni 19) by Vijayanagara BC Mysore 58 (Vikas 26).

Hariharan scores a hat-trick

M. Hariharan scored a hat trick as Ashco Hockey Club defeated Blue Star Hockey 4-1 in the D.S. Murthy Memorial hockey tournament here.

The results:

Ashco HC 4 (M. Hariharan 6, 15, 30, Venkataramana 20) bt Blue Star HC 1 (Suprith 48); BCYA 2 (Gagan Ganapathi 22, Chris Alphred 29) bt Naveen HC 0.

Big win for Konkan FC

Konkan FC whipped Netaji FC 7-1 in the BDFA C-division league here on Monday.

The results: City Club FC bt Oriental FC 2-1; Konkan FC bt Netaji FC 7-1; RBI FC bt Bangalore Youngsters FC 4-0; Jolly Bros FC bt Modern Boys 6-0.

Harshil and Karthik power Swastic Union (2) to victory

Harshil (200 n.o) and Karthik (156) powered Swastic Union Cricket Club (2) to victory against Mount Joy CC in the KSCA under-19 inter-club tournament here.

The scores: Swastic Union (2) 461/4 in 50 overs (M.B. Shivam 68, Harshil 200 n.o., S.U. Karthik 156) bt Mount Joy 94 in 17.3 overs (N. Likith 38, R.J. Mankalesh 3/36, Rajashekar Swamy 3/17, Dheeraj Gowda 3/17).

Bharath 148 in 42.1 overs (Ram Venkatesan 36, S.M. Sarfaraz 28, Atharv Shukla 5/32, R. Lohith 3/22) lost to Bangalore United (1) 149/1 in 21.5 overs (Aaron Joseph 64 n.o, Akash Nitesh Shetty 45 n.o.)

Cambridge 259 in 49 overs (Pratheek 67, Talha Sheriff 34, V. Nabhas 94 n.o., Nikhil Aithal 3/58, Siddesh Asalkar 3/25) bt Friends Union (2) 117 in 27.1 overs (G. Kushan 5/26).

Young Lions Club 170 in 32.4 overs (Farhan Khan 34, Rishit Negi 3/24) bt Yankees 119 in 32 overs (Dhyan Suvarna 36, Farhan Khan 3/30)

Coles 136 in 34.3 overs (Nikhil George 53, Sujaybhushan Patil 5/16) lost to Jupiter CA 137/2 in 17.4 overs (A.Abhishek 73, Bhushan Patil 46).

Visweswarapuram (2) 42 in 19.2 overs (V.K. Roopak 5/9) lost to Social Cricketers 43 in 6.1 overs (Krishiv Bajaj 32 n.o).

Bangalore Occasionals 170/9 in 43 overs (S. Vajra 29, Kushal Keshav 45 n.o., Arnav Gokhale 47 n.o., M.P. Samarth 5/40) drew with Jawahar SC (1) 46/4 in 14.2 overs (match stopped due to rain).

Malleswaram Gymkhana 217 in 44 overs (S. Monish 79, L. Vibaansh 42 n.o., Shivpratap Singh 3/27) lost to Century Cricketers 218/1 in 28.2 overs (Pradyumna Panigraphy 72 n.o., Hari Rajiv 119 n.o.).

Double century by Chethana

L.R. Chethana scored 216 for Coles CC in its drawn KSCA Group I, Division I league match against Bangalore United CC (1) here.

The scores:

Bangalore United (1) 345/9 in 90 overs (Lochan Appanna 35, Kishan Bedare 130, Hasan Khalid 59, Aditya Goyal 28 n.o., Kranthi Kumar 5/59) drew with Coles 387/4 in 59.4 overs (L.R. Chethana 216, Nishith Raj 106, Bharath Kumar 51).

Cambridge 310 in 89.2 overs (Hadley Noronha 84, Aqib Jawad 43, Rajkumar 26, Milind Ramesh 49, Dheeraj Gowda 57, I.G. Anil 3/103, B.U. Shivakumar 4/56) drew with Friends Union (1) 303 in 52.4 overs (B.U. Shivakumar 40, Rishi Bopanna 44 n.o., Mithun Bhat 26, Shubhang Hegde 5/34) and 34/0 in 8 overs.

Swastic Union (2) 338/6 in 90 overs (Yashwant 41, Sujay Sateri 126 n.o., Naga Bharath 68, Aashish Mahesh 48 n.o., Likhit Bannur 3/74) drew with Mount Joy 276 in 86.1 overs (J. Suchith 127, Akshan Rao 98, Gaurav Dhiman 4/21).

Vultures 199 in 74.2 overs (S. Nithin 33, D. Nischal 111 n.o., Bheem Rao 5/33) and 117/0 in 22 overs (S. Nithin 51, D. Nischal 61) drew with Swastic Union (1) 117 in 40.5 overs (Siddharth 30, Bheem Rao 27, Praveen Dubey 4/29).

Sir Syed Cricketers 248 in 66.2 overs (Shrikara 39, B.A. Mohith 76 n.o., Monish Reddy 48, V. Koushik 5/24, S.M. Shamanth 3/63) and 64/3 decl. in 18 overs (Luvnith Sisodia 28) drew with Rajajinagar Cricketers 191 in 61.4 overs (N. Rohan 57, Vidwath Kaverappa 4/43, S. Punith 3/26).

Social Cricketers 260 in 78.4 overs (Sudhanwa Kulkarni 26, Abheet Kuthpady 25, Younus Ali Baig 41, K.V. Aneesh 88, V. Vyshak 32, Varun Rao 3/76, G.D. Naman 6/49) bt Bangalore Occasionals 68 in 29.1 overs (Niranjan 26, Shreesha Achar 5/20, Anmol Mathur 3/10) and 85 in 38.4 overs (Dhuri 4/12, Shreesha Achar 4/38).

Viani in sole lead

International Master Viani Antonio D'Cunha was in sole lead with seven points after seven rounds in the Akshayakalpa Organic-Karnataka State open FIDE-rated chess championship.

In the seventh round, Viani defeated A. Augustin.

GM M.S. Thejkumar (6 points) was held to a draw by Shet Prajwal.

Kohli joins Indian team's training

Kohli at a practice session.
TWITTER/BCCI

WTC FINAL

Press Trust of India
ARUNDEL (SUSSEX)

Batting mainstay Virat Kohli joined the national team's training session on Monday at the Arundel Castle Cricket Club along with left-arm seamer Jaydev Unadkat, who seemed to have recovered from left shoulder injury.

India will play Australia at the Oval in the one-off Test from June 7 to 11. The BCCI on Monday shared pictures of the members of the team, including Kohli, pace duo of Umesh Yadav and Mohammed Siraj on its twitter handle.

Unadkat was also engaged in a discussion with head coach Rahul Dravid and bowling coach Paras Mhambrey.

Cheteshwar Pujara, who has been playing for Sussex in the English county circuit also was seen arriving in the training ground.

Skipper Rohit Sharma and Yashasvi Jaiswal have also reached, while the last batch including Ravindra Jadeja, Shubman Gill, Mohammad Shami, K.S. Bharat and Ajinkya Rahane, will be leaving on Tuesday following the IPL final.

Jaiswal was included as a stand-by player after Ruturaj Gaikwad informed BCCI about him getting married on June 3-4.

Match officials

Richard Illingworth and Chris Gaffaney will be the on-field umpires for the final.

AC Milan beats Juve, seals CL spot

EURO LEAGUES

Agence France-Presse
ROME

Olivier Giroud secured Champions League qualification for AC Milan with the only goal in Sunday's 1-0 win at troubled Juventus.

Giroud guided home a brilliant header from Davide Calabria's cross in the 40th minute to guarantee Milan at least fourth place.

Stefano Pioli's side, which was knocked out of this year's Champions League in the semifinals by Inter Milan, joins local rival Lazio and champion Napoli on the continent's big stage.

In LaLiga, Real Sociedad fell to a 2-1 defeat at Atletico Madrid on Sunday but still sealed qualification for next season's Champions League after Villarreal lost 2-1 at Rayo Vallecano.

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